Province leaders called to No 10

Major sets up summit after Ulster killings

By Sheila Gunn, political correspondent

invited the leaders of the four main constitutional parties in Northern Ireland for Downing Street talks on combating the wave of bloodshed that has left 26 people dead this year.

The meeting early next week will be the first of its kind for more than 16 years and was immediately welcomed by MPs from the province. The prime minister told the Commons he hoped politicians of all parties would give the clearest possible lead in the search for peace.

Mr Major decided to call the meeting after holding private talks with Peter Brooke, the Northern Ireland secretary, yesterday and after a

Cancer dose blunder

More than four hundred cancer patients received incorrect doses of radiation because of a blunder at a hospital in Stoke-on-Trent.

The government announced an enquiry after North Staffordshire Hospital Centre said radiation doses were up to 30 per cent less than they should have been and the medical physicist responsible had been moved to another

Into Europe

From next Monday The Times will provide a special service for readers in mainland Europe. On February 10 and on every publishing day thereafter a special edition of the world's finest newspaper, prepared specially for these readers, is to be available at key sales points throughout the

Maxwell voice

The recorded voice of Robert Maxwell, the late pub-lishing magnate, was heard in the High Court during the Sara Keays libel case, negotiating with her over serialisation of her book A Question of Judgement Page 3

Olympic fear

A car bomb which killed five people in the centre of Madrid, has raised fears that Eta, the Basque separatist organisation, is plan-ning to hit this year's Olympic Games....Page 11

Freedom day Russia says it will release its

last ten political prisoners today from the notorious Perm 35 forced labour Page 12

Nuclear bid

GEC Aisthom, an Anglo-French joint venture, has won a £580 million contract to build a 1,360 megawan gas-fired power station for PowerGen at Connah's Quay, North Wales Page 19

| MOEX | |
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| Births, marriages, | |
| deaths 16, | 17 |
| Crossword | 18 |
| Letters | 15 |
| Obituaries | 17 |
| Parliament | ٤. |
| Sport29- | 32 |
| Weather | 16 |
| Veather LIFE A TIMES | • |
| | 3 |
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cabinet meeting at which internment was discussed. Government sources insisted, however, that conditions were still "a long, long way" from being appropriate for the re-introduction of detention without trial. Mr Brooke also doubted its effectiveness. since nearly half of those charged with terrorist crimes were not previously known to have links with paramilitary

groups. Unionists have been intensifving their calls for internment in the wake of the violence that has claimed 12 lives in the past week. Two people were still critically ill in hospital yesterday after the betting shop massacre in which five people were shot dead on Wednesday and the father of one of those who died described the killers as slime spawned by the devil". The wave of killings

prompted the IRA to tell its followers not to get involved in tit-for-tat murders, which it said suited only the British. An Ulster Defence Association spokesman told the BBC in Belfast that it would be prepared to cease violence if the IRA ended what he called its campaign of genocide.

The meeting next week will bring together Mr Major, Mr Brooke, Tom King, the de-fence secretary, the Unionist leaders James Molyneaux and Ian Paisley, John Hume of the SDLP and John Alder-dice of the Alliance party. It will be the first time talks about Northern Ireland security have been held at Downing Street since Harold Wilson called all the main parties together in January,

Mr Molyneaux hoped the invitation might pave the way to the restoration of political and constitutional stability and Mr Paisley welcomed the fact that, "after 20 years", a British prime minister had said he would meet the leaders. "That, at least, is a

breakthrough."
Mr Paisley reacted with hostility, however, to Mr Ma-

jor's suggestion that talks could bring peace. "Do you really believe that if the politicians of Northern Ireland at this moment were sitting at a table, the awful atrocities that we have witnessed in the past few days would not have taken place? If you believe that, then there is no hope for Northern Ireland." Mr Major replied that it was to the advantage of vereryone for all shades of opinion to come together to express a mutual wish for

The exchange was an indication of how the prime minister will inevitably find Unionists, who are demanding internment and a massive crackdown on the IRA, and the nationalists. Seamus Mallen of the SDLP nevertheless welcomed the talks, saying: "Our party leader will most certainly be there and we look forward to that

Mr Brooke told the Commons that the meeting would ensure that "at the highest levels of government, we can hear directly from political leaders who understand and represent the views of the people of Northern Ireland who inevitably have borne the

brunt of recent events' He strongly denied that security in the province was out of control and nor would it be allowed to get out of control. Military reinforcements for the police would be kept under review further ailjustments made if necessary. He promised "vigorous follow-up action" to track down those responsible for the lat-

est attacks. For the opposition, Kevin McNamara welcomed the talks and said they should also address the province's political problems. "The dead bear witness to the failure of the political process," he said. Terrorists divide the community by fear. The constitu-tional politicians can, by their actions, bind those wounds."

Depressed Belfast, page 5

Nine killed as plane crashes on restaurant

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN INDIANAPOLIS

AT LEAST nine people died when an American military C130 Hercules transport plane crashed into a restaurant and a hotel in southern Indiana yesterday, starting a fire with 60ft flames.

Ann Groves, Vanderburgh county's deputy coroner, said nine people, including five of those on board, had been confirmed dead, but added: That toll will rise." Nine people are still missing. Some earlier reports said 28 people might have died. Police and rescue workers were last night still trying to rescue at least two people believed to be

As many as 20 people were believed to have been in JoJo's restaurant, about a mile from Evansville airport, when the plane ploughed into it after striking the ground in the car park. The aircraft also struck

> FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

BILL Clinton's presidential bid was again embroiled in controversy yester-day after it was claimed that he dodged

the Vietnam draft. Mr Clinton, front-

runner for the Democratic nomination.

dismissed the allegations as an old and

discredited story, but they have arisen

just as he was recovering from unproven charges of adultery and are bound to

raise damaging new questions about his

character and credibility.

Bob Kerrey, a Democratic rival who

Bob Kerrey, a Democratic rival who lost his leg in Vietnam, moved quickly to exploit the issue, saying the "jury is out" on Mr Clinton's past conduct. "I hope he's telling the truth, but I've got my doubts." Republicans are likely to demand the same intense media scrutiny of Mr Clinton's record as that given to Dan Quayle in 1988 after it was claimed that George Bush's running



the adjacent Drury Inn. Debbie Brennan, the hotel's manager, said: "We heard a boom and then there was a fire-

trapped in the restaurant.



Witnesses with flying experience said the plane appeared to stall and spin as it made a steep curving approach to the airfield in a manoeuvre intended to simulate landing techniques used

Anniversary bonquets: the Queen at a hospice for cancer patients at Snettisham. Norfolk, yesterday, the 40th anniversary of her accession to the throne. She was 82% think that Ashdown should stay, poll shows By Philip Webster and Nicholas Wood PADDY Ashdown moved with the theft of a document from the offices of Mr Ashswiftly yesterday to reassert his authority as his election down's solicitor that gave destrategists demanded a natails of the Liberal Democrat tionwide police investigation leader's affair, Mr Ashdown into thefts from the offices of was heard in silence by the the three main parties.

The Liberal Democrat Commons when he rose with other party leaders to conleader was given a hoost last gratulate the Queen on the night as the first opinion poll

fortieth anniversary of her accession and to question the prime minister over the latest security developments in

since the disclosure of his

affair with a former secretary

suggested strong public sup-port for him. A Gallup tele-

phone survey of 502 electors

found that 82 per cent believe

he should continue in office,

and only 4.6 per cent that he

Among the 58 Liberal

Democrat supporters ques-

tioned, 92 per cent thought

he should continue in office

and fewer than 2 per cent

thought he should resign.

The special poll for The Daily

Telegraph asked people

whether they thought Mr

Ashdown should continue as

At the same time, Labour

set in hand a national check

of break-ins over the past two

years at its constituency and

regional offices and the

homes of party staff to deter-

mine whether there is a pat-

tern that suggests involve-

ment of external forces, which

As a man and a woman

mate had pulled strings to get into the Indiana National Guard, and so avoid the air force and navy's officer training

party leaders doubt.

Indiana National Guard, and so avoid

The allegations against the Arkansas

governor were contained in a long Wall

Street Journal article yesterday. It as-

serted that he avoided an almost certain

call-up in September or October 1969

by agreeing to study law at the Univer-

sity of Arkansas and join its reserve

officer training corps. He did neither.

Mr Clinton had by that time already

enjoyed a year's deferment because he had won a Rhodes scholarship to Ox-

ford. The article quoted Opal Ellis, aged

84, a Republican who was executive

secretary of Mr Clinton's draft board, as saying that he had told her on his return

from Oxford that summer that "he was

too well educated to go" and "was going to fix my wagon and pull every string he could think of". Mr Clinton could not

recall the meeting and denied using strong-arm tactics to avoid the draft. He

service in Vietnam.

should resign.

leader or resign.

Northern Ireland His colleagues were relieved that he had taken the opportunity of a non-partisan occasion to demonstrate to the country that it was "business as usual". Party staff were told that there would no change in campaigning plans or in Mr Ashdown's

Tricia Howard, the woman whose affair with Mr Ashdown five years ago was made public on Wednesday, issued Continued on page 18, col 2

Ex-lover's plea, page 2 From the gutter, page 14 Loneliest day, page 14 Letters, page 15

First woman chosen to take over as DPP

BY FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT BARBARA Mills, QC, was to be allowed to take cases in

named yesterday as the new Director of Public Prosecutions, the first woman to hold

Mrs Mills, aged 51, the director of the Serious Fraud Office, replaces Sir Allan Green, QC, who resigned last October after being stopped by police for kerb-crawling. Her appointment will be welcomed within the Crown Prosecution Service because Mrs Mills is likely to carry on Sir were arrested in connection | Allan's fight for CPS lawyers

programmes but failed because of a

vision defect in one case and a hearing

Holmes, an army reserve officer recruit-

er at Arkansas University, as saying that

Mr Clinton subsequently agreed with him to enlist at the university that au-

tumn and join the training corps, gaining a further deferment. In fact, Mr

Clinton returned to Oxford for another

year and then went to Yale law school. "I

thought he was going to finish a month

or two in England and then come back

to the University of Arkansas," he said. "Bill Clinton was able to manipulate

things so that he didn't have to go in."

Mr Clinton called the Journal's article "an old story that . . . has been regularly recycled by Republicans. My voters [in Arkansas] have heard all of this and

The article then quoted Eugene

problem in the other.

CTOWN COURTS. There are no women law lords, and only one Court of Appeal judge out of 27, and two of 83 High Court judges, are women. Only 21 of 455 circuit judges are women.

It is likely to be several months before Mrs Mills takes up the post while a successor at the Serious Fraud Office is selected.

Woman in the news, page 6 Leading article, page 15

Embattled Clinton feeling the draft again

Clinton: "an old and discredited story"

Kidnap man tells of regret

By Craig Seton and Peter Davenport

THE man who kidnapped Birmingham estate agent Stephanie Slater wrote to police to apologise for the ordeal he put her through and to deny that he had murdered Julie Dart, the Leeds teenager found strangled seven months ago, police disclosed yesterday.

The letter, posted in Shef-field, South Yorkshire, was received yesterday by West Midlands police in Birmingham, where the hunt for him is being co-ordinated. It contained expressions of "regret and contrition" and offered apologies to Miss Slater

It indicated that copies had been sent to West Yorkshire police, to Lynn Dart, Julie's mother, and to newspapers and broadcasting organisa-tions. The typed, three-page letter, posted on Wednesday. arrived as West Midlands and West Yorkshire police held a meeting in Birmingham of 100 senior detectives from around Britain to prepare for the possibil-ity that the kidnapper could strike again.

Tom Cook, assistant chief constable of West Yorkshire, said before yesterday's meeting that the letter contained information only the kidnapper would know. He added: He says in the letter that he is responsible for the Stephanie Slater kidnap, but not for the Julie Dart murder."

Mr Cook, who is in charge of the co-ordinated investigation with West Midlands police into Miss Slater's abduction and Miss Dart's murder, said that the contrite tone of the letters could indicate that the police were closing in and that the man was preparing a defence for a court appearance. He said that he did not believe the abductor's denial of murdering Miss Dart, aged 18, who was kidnapped in Leeds last July and found dead 10 days later in Lincolnshire. The abductor claimed that,

during the eight days that Miss Slater, aged 25, was held captive, he had carried a note in his pocket revealing her whereabouts in case he was caught or had an accident and she was left alone. Mr Cook said: "It does show a genuine concern for Stephanie and indicates he was working alone and did not Continued on page 18, col 1



Valerie Grove goes to the last bastion of female assertiveness

section, page 1 BLOOD, TOIL, TEARS AND

Life and Times



How did Churchill save the world while drinking like a fish? The Health page on Friday Life and Times section, page 6

WEEKEND TIMES

THE FOOD



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ADRIAN BROOKS

Conspiracy theories played down in aftermath of theft of Ashdown papers

Parties tell of 50 office burglaries in two years

By STEWART TENDLER AND BILL FROST

Over the past three years 26

Conservative constituency of-

fices have been burgled some

of them several times, Conser-

vative Central office said ves-

terday. The total of break-ins

Offices in The Wrekin,

Shropshire, were raided five

times. Each time computer

equipment was taken. Bur-

glars also visited the party's

offices in Chichester, West

Sussex, three times over 18

months. Streatham Conser-

vative Association in south

London was raided three

times over the same period.

The most recent burglary was

just over a month ago. Again computer equipment was

The Conservatives' office in

Bradford was burgled in

March last year as the full-time agent Val Binney and

during the period is 39.

ALL three main political par-ties yesterday issued fresh de-Councillors in Hebden tails of more than 50 burglaries against party of-fices up and down the country over the past two years as calls increased for an enquiry into possible political espionage.

Many party workers refuse

to subscribe to conspiracy theories but admitted increasing concern about the level of the burglaries and their computer targets. The cases are being investigated as ordinary crimes inspired by the fact many constituency offices are in buildings with little security and are often equipped with valuable com-

The earliest Liberal Democrat case was in December 1990 when the offices of the Truro constituency party were broken into although neither the police nor the office staff could work out how the thieves got in.

The burglary was discovered when the constituency organiser, tried to find a collection of 70 computer discs. The discs, containing details of members and party helpers, had been taken with about £20 in stamps but portable office equipment had

Last August the offices were burgled again when the thieves broken in through a skylight. This time they took nothing although they did try to force the locked drawer where the discs had been

In Brecon, the offices used by Richard Livsey, the Liberal Democrat MP for Brecon and Radnor, and his constituency party were broken into last August.

Two computers worth a total of £6,000 were taken and constituency records held on computer disc were also taken. Yesterday Mr Livsey said that at the time the burglary was thought to be the work of someone dealing in

stolen computer equipment.

Details of the Truro burglary were passed to Brecon and the CID officers spoke to their opposite numbers in Cornwall to see if there was any_connection. The police decided there was not

Councillors in Hebden Bridge, West Yorkshire, have been broken into three times in July, October and November last year. In the first burglary a word processor was taken and the second time equipment to go with the word processor was taken. In both these burglaries the of-

fices of voluntary groups sharing the building were also robbed. In November the burglars concentrated on the Liberal Democrats and took a key computer with membership records, ignoring other equipment

In Bath, the Liberal Democrat office was burgled last October. A front door was broken and internal locked doors were kicked down. On January 23, staff at Paddy Ashdown's constituency of fice in Yeovil discovered that a computer containing confidential membership records and returns from canvassing had been used. There was no sign of forced entry.

The Liberal Democrat constituency offices for Richmond and Barnes in south London were broken into two weeks ago, on 26 January.

cy on the edge of Manchester

was broken into and a £500

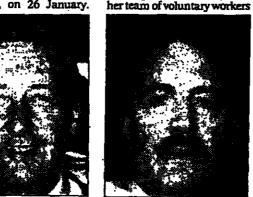
personal computer, a printer

and membership records

were taken. The burglar, who

forced a door, moved aside a

£100 camera on the desk next



Livsey: disks and two Lord Holme: computer computers stolen and papers taken

The burglar got in through a prepared for the May locate window at lunchtime and took nothing. Last weekend the party's ctions. The IBM computer which held the full election plans and the local memberoffices for the Littleborough ship records on its hard-disk and Saddleworth constituen-

was dismantled.

The office of the Leeds North West Conservative Association was broken into last year and the only item stolen was its computer. The discs were taken, a safe broken into and the back-up copies of the

nored other computer equip-ment. Four days ago an office used by Lord Holme of Chelparty's regional agent said cash in the same safe and items of personal jewellery tenham, an adviser to Paddy Ashdown, the Liberal demowere left. He said: "The theft could be regarded as a "rou-time burglarly" but any theft crat leader, at the offices of the Constitutional Reform of computer equipment and Centre in Covent Garden computer records from a political party could be regarded were burgled. A computer and papers were stolen.

as highly suspicious. Tory offices at Bath, Chris Patten's marginal seat, also lost computer equipment in a burglary. A regional official said that although there was inadequate evidence to sup-port a conspiracy theory, "perhaps in the light of other recent events, there might be a need to re-examine the

John Earl, deputy central office agent for Greater London, said: "Petry thefts from constituency offices have been going on for years and I would suspect that thefis from MPs' offices have been too. I would imagine there are lots of burglars sitting on stolen computer discs with no idea what to do with

Labour has reported burglaries at constituency offices in Bow and Poplar, Bethnal Green and Stepney, Hornsey and Wood Green, all in London, the party office for the Manchester. Stretford seat and homes of full-time organisers in Islington, north London, and Wigan. Nine Labour MPs have

been burgled, including seven offices at Westminster. Peter Hain, MP for Neath, has accused the security services of supplying stolen in-formation to the government. The Labour incidents include three thefts from Jack Cunningham, the party's campaign manager, and records taken from the office of Mar-jorie Mowlem, the party spokeswoman on Ciry affairs. John Prescott had a disc stolen from his researcher's machine after the prime minister ordered an enquiry into leak of the draft of the Queen's Speech to Mr Pres-

Diary, page 14



Mrs Ashdown: knew of affair at the time

Former lover pleads for privacy

BY BILL PROST

PADDY Ashdown's wife and his former lover faced the press on separate London doorsteps yesterday. Mrs Ashdown said that she had known of her husband's affair at the time, while Tricia Howard asked to be set free from intolerable intrusion and pressure.

Ms Howard, aged 48, stood in silence posing for pictures as a solicitor issued a statement on her behalf deploring the zeal with which the tabloid press had pursued the story. She patiently en-dured the shours from photographers and ignored invitations such as "Smile a bit more", and "Come on love, give us a beam".

As journalists pushed forward, the sound of toppling photographers' ladders and cursing from the back of the pack all but drowned out the solicitor's voice. Ms Howard endured the ever-more-frantic attentions with a look of grim disdain as he read the statement a second time: "I wish to make clear that I deplore the attempts that have been made by the tab-



profit from the theft of a personal and confidential document which disclosed the existence of this brief relationship and the papers who have asked me to do the same.

"I would like to say that I very much hope that, in return for making myself available to be photographed, my family and I will now be left alone to live a normal life free from intolerable pressures and intrusions."

As the statement was delivered, meat porters from Smithfield Market, close to the solicitors' offices in central London, joined the mêlée. They shouted encouragement to Ms Howard and growled at the press. As the photo session continued, the porters hostility grew. An egg **Better hours will**

and a voice shouted: "That's for you soum. Leave the lady alone." The missile broke against a window, just a few feet from Ms Howard. A few minutes later. Ms Howard retreated inside. Some of the photographers set up camp on the doorstep. "I reckon we'll be on this a while," said

Jane Ashdown told journalists camped on her doorstep yesterday that she had known of her husband's affair. "It came as a great shock, but that was five years ago," she said. Her instinct had led her to realise that he was being unfaithful. "When you live in close proximity with a guy for a long time, it is quite easy. You do not need a sixth sense about these things, you just

Press told

to show

mixing political reporting

with irrelevant commentaries

on the private lives of politi-cians, Lord McGregor of

Durris, chairman of the Press Complaints Commission.

said yesterday in the wake of

the Paddy Ashdown affair.

Although the commission has received no complaints about the coverage, Lord McGregor said that he feared

reports on politician's sex

lives during the emotive pre-

election campaign would in-

crease the threat of statutory

The press, on probation for 18 months in the wake of the

1989 Calcutt report into pri-

vacy and the press, had im-

proved considerably over the

past 12 months, Lord Mc-

Gregor said. But if sections of

the press became "providers of little Kinsey reports on politicians and parliamentary candidates, then all the

gains of the past 12 months

He in no way thought that the News of the World, which received the stolen document

about Mr Ashdown's affair,

or The Scotsman, which

broke the story, had acted

wrongly, but restraint must be the "maxim of the day" if

stringent privacy laws and

press regulation.

will be lost".

Girl loses mental detention claim

A council was cleared yesterday by a High Court judge of sending a girl in its care to a mental hospital without her consent because of disruptive behaviour at a children's

Mr Justice Kennedy said that Kirkiees council, in West Yorkshire, had acted within its powers and in the best interests of the girl, aged 12. who was feared to be suicidal 'It seems to me that the local authority [social workers and officials acted as a team. responsibly keeping each other in touch and behaving as a responsible parent would have done," he said.

Elizabeth Lawson, QC, for the girl and her mother, had said that she had been unlawfully deprived of liberty for 18 days in 1989, and held in an adult psychiatric ward on an informal basis without legal procedures being followed.

The judge said the council was entitled to have the girl

£50,000 award for train driver

The driver of a mail train who suffered from shock after making an emergency stop at 98mph when a fault caused a signal light to change was awarded £50,000 damages in

the High Court yesterday. Fred Whale, aged 61, who has been unable to work since the incident at Nuneaton station in June 1988, was afraid that the train was about to be robbed or that it might be hit from behind by another train. He had sued the British Railways Board for stress and loss of earnings. The board admitted liability.

Thief cleared of killing PC

A man who admitted stealing from cars was cleared yester-day of killing an off-duty policeman. Derek Johnston, aged 24, of Newcastle upon Tyne, was accused of being the driver of a stolen car that killed PC Duncan Clift in a car park at Hexham. Northumberland, last March.

PC Clift, aged 27, stood in front of the car after he saw its woman owner trying to stop a thief from stealing it. He died of head injuries. Mr Johnston denied being the driver. A jury at Newcastle crown court found him not guilty of mur-der or manslaughter.

Scargill fails

Arthur Scargill. NUM president, has been dropped as an official of his constituency Labour party after being vicechairman for 10 years. He failed to be re-elected in competition with five other canddates in Barnsley West and Penistone, South Yorkshire.

CORRECTION

On January 31 we reported a Radio Authority ruling against Capital Radio over remarks made about homosexuai people on its Breakfast Show. A spokesman for Capital. and consequently The Times report, wrongly attributed these remarks to Chris Tarrant. The presenter was in fact Russ Williams. We apologise to Mr Tarrant.

THE SUROPEAN TIMES European edition for The Times

From Monday. The Times will provide a special service for readers in continental Europe. As the single market approaches, more Britons are crossing the Channel for business and leisure From Monday. and leisure. From Monday, an edition of The Times entitled The European Times will be available at sales points throughout the continent.

This edition will be available at sales points throughout the continent. This edition will contain the same material as the domestic editions, which themselves will carry more news from around Europe on the overseas pages and on the business and sports pages. The chief difference will be that, in place of the daily TV guide, the European edition will carry a full page on the arts and cultural events across the continent: cinema, the continent: cinema, theaire, painting, sculpture, architecture, design, fash-ion, music, opera and bal-let. Times staff writers in

comment on the cultural life of their host nations. On Saturdays, The Euro-pean Times will carry weekly arts and television listings for Europe. This edition will not be avail-

the European capitals will

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RAISING THE STANDARD OF PUBLIC SERVICES.

So if you are up to the mark - the Charter Mark - and would like

posed on marriages by the Westminster lifestyle. John Major said that politics was a "rough trade for marriages and always had been". Mr Major's remarks came in an interview with BBC Radio i broadcast last night but recorded before the Mr Ashdown's admission that he had a brief affair with his then Commons secretary live years ago.

They were in the same vein as comments made by Mr Ashdown in an interview with Living magazine in

restraint By Sheila Gunn, political correspondent By MELINDA WITTSTOCK MEDIA CORRESPONDENT **NEWSPAPERS** must avoid

ease marital strain

PLANS aimed at reducing the strain on MPs' marriages by introducing more conventional working hours in the Commons are nearing:

The special Commons committee investigating working practices is to recommend a 10pm end to parliamentary business, except in emergencies. The move, part of an initiative announced by John Major when he became prime minister, will remove the pressure on family life caused by late and all-night sittines.

In practice, votes at 10pm would still delay MPs for another half-hour, but the reform would enable them to return home before midnight instead of having to remain at Westminster in case of votes in the early hours.

In the light of complaints from MPs about the difficulty of fitting in constituency work and finding time to spend with families, the committee wants also to cut the number of Friday sittings. That would take the normal parliamentary week from 2.30pm Monday to 10pm Thursday. To make up the hours, the com-mittee will suggest a Wednesday morning sitting, probably starting at 10.30, to deal with private business.

One of the committee's main concerns is the anecdor-

with young families from standing for Parliament. The MPs are understood to have ruled out sittings from

9am to 5pm because of the importance of free mornings for ministerial, constituency and other business duties. Also, four or five morning sittings a week would do little to help MPs with small children. The committee has not yet agreed how tightly to control the scope for longer sittings in emergencies. The prospect of a small

majority, or a minority, gov-ernment after the election has increased the desire for reform as heavy legislation would raise the pressure for longer sittings. Although the committee is not expected to publish its report until early March, some of its MPs are anxious to win approval from the Commons for the reforms before the new parliament. The changes are mostly in

line with the recommenda-tions from John MacGregor, Leader of the House, and the ideas from the other parties. However, most of those on the cross-party committee disagree with Mr MacGregor's call for the abo-lition of ten-minute rule bills introduced by backbench MPs. The bills stand little chance of becoming law, but the committees see them as a vehicle for worthwhile proal evidence that the late hours posals that could be taken on deter both men and women by a government.

government intervention were to be avoided. Marriages suffer, Major says

BY NICHOLAS WOOD, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

day echoed Paddy Ashdown's comments on the strains imsigned to deny MPs any social life and "smash up their marriages".

While the prime minister denied that his own marriage had been put under strain by his career, he acknowledged that his wife Norma had had some tearful moments. The pressure on her had intens-ified on his promotion from Treasury chief secretary to foreign secretary in 1989, a post that he held for three months before being made

Mr Major said that his

THE prime minister yester- which he described the Com- busiest jobs in the cabinet" mons as a "madhouse" de- and the one with the greatest workload. "I moved straight from that to become foreign secretary, with a lot of travelling. It was a time when a lot was happening at home with the children, and a whole series of other personal matters. It was a tough two or

three months." Mr Major said that he had been "extraordinarily lucky" that his wife had understood what his work entailed and that she had contributed remarkably. His two teenage children had also been "amazing" in their tolerance,

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II XX

Tape of negotiations with Maxwell played at Keays libel case

ROBERT Maxwell added a dash of merriment to the Sara Keays libel case yesterday when the recorded voice of the late publishing magnate was heard saying that he could be trusted as if he were the Bank of England.

The recording played to the High Court jury was of Maxwell negotiating with Miss Keays, sometime lover of Cecil Parkinson, the former Tory party chairman, over serialisation of her book A Question

Court 13, scene of libel cases involving Maxwell, echoed to laughter as he told her: Trust me if you will ... You know, my record speaks for itself ... Can I say to you that you're talking to Robert Max-

Tributes flood in to 40 years of dedication

By Alan Hamilton

SHOWERED with congratulations from home and abroad, the Queen began the 40th anniversary of her accession to the throne yesterday with a moment's reflection at Sandringham, for the day also marks the death of her father, King George VI, in that same house on February 6, 1952, at the age of only 56. Accompanied by the Duke

of Edinburgh, the Queen drove the short distance to St Mary Magdalene church for a private communion service. Later, the Queen and her staff tackled eight sacks of

mail delivered from King's Lynn sorting office, containing many messages of goodwill. Messages also arrived from heads of state including President von Weizsacker of Germany, who said that the United Kingdom and the royal family had always advocated the restoration of German' unity "with understanding

Her own government and Opposition added their tributes in the Commons. John Major sent the Cabinet's "warmest good wishes", while Neil Kinnock remarked that his sovereign was respected throughout the world for her "wisdom, strength and dedication".

The Queen's only public engagement of the day was a visit to a hospice for cancer patients in Snettisham, where a crowd of more than 500 greeted her with applause. In a violet coat and hat, she smiled broadly as she collected armfuls of flowers.

As on every Accession Day, gun salutes were fired in Hyde Park and at the Tower of London. During the Hyde Park salute by the King's Troop, Royal Horse Artillery. a horse became trapped under a gun carriage and was dragged for 50 yards. It was found to have suffered no

more than a grazed front leg.
The highlight of yesterday, for the Queen, for her dinner guests at Sandringham, and for millions of her subjects, was 110 minutes in front of the television watching the documentary Elizabeth R, a film portrait of one of the nation's great undiscovered comediennes, buoyant, sharp and in very good form.

Photograph, page 1 Television review.

well. I'm not Rupert Murdoch. I'm not a hired hand. . . You are as safe with me as you would be in the Bank of

As they struck their deal in October 1985, the week before the Tory party conference, Maxwell told her: 'You're quite a tough lady." The recording made by

Miss Keays was produced while she was being crossexamined on the fourth day of her action against New Woman magazine. She is suing over an article published in October 1989 that she claims accused her of being a kissand-tell bimbo who wrote her book to make money and to cause maximum embarrassment to Mr Parkinson.

On the tape, the court heard Miss Keays bargain for £110,000 for the serialisation rights. It was agreed that, if serialisation did not go ahead in time for the conference, she would receive £110,000 plus £50,000 compensation and 25,000 hardback copies of the book, worth £40,000.

Miss Keays, aged 44, told the court that she was worried about industrial action and that there had to be a very strong "disincentive" against the book not seeing the light

On the tape, Maxwell told her that he did not look on serialisation of her book as business, but as "a matter of major social, political and human importance". Miss Keays said that "some very big vested interests" were anxious to stop the serialisation, and Maxwell reassured her that they could not stop him, saying: "I'm not part of the establishment."

Earlier, in cross-examination by Desmond Browne, QC. for New Woman, Miss Keays agreed that she had told the Daily Mirror that it would have to pay for a photo-graph of herself to accompany the serialisation. "If Î'm going to do anything to benefit these people, I expect to be paid for it. I have no income. My career has been

Miss Keays, of Marksbury, her book to protect her reput- today.

ation because of a "smear campaign" against her, and that she had not been "hell bent on revenge" against Mr Parkinson, Murdoch Magazines (UK) and Frankie McGowan, former editor of

New Woman, deny libel. Miss Keays denied that she had capitalised on the notoriety of herself and Flora, her daughter by Mr Parkinson, by selling photographs of the baby to the press. She agreed that she had received £17,000 for pictures of the child at a month old that appeared in the Sunday Mirror and the Observer in January 1984.

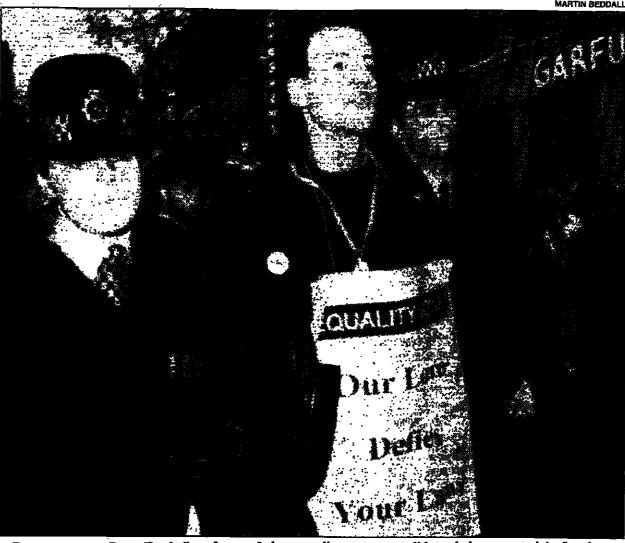
Mr Browne, questioning Miss Keays about whether she had wanted to cause embarrassment, pointed to a reference in her book about the night in April 1982 when it was reported that Britain was about to send a small task force to the South Atlantic.

She wrote: "Cecil had stayed with me at Temple West that night and had been about to drive to Cambridge the following morning when we heard the news of an emergency meeting of the Cabinet concerning the Falkland Islands. He left in a state of some anxiety lest anyone from 10 Downing Street had been trying to get in touch

Miss Keays told the court that that was included to show that it was a lie to say that at the time Mr Parkinson had long since ceased to

Mr Browne asked why she had included a reference in her book to Mr Parkinson making a "serious criticism" of Margaret Thatcher, the then prime minister, relating to the time of the Falklands crisis, if she had not wanted to cause embarrassment. Miss Keays denied that it was to get her own back on No 10. which she claimed had "fuelled the campaign" against

If she wanted to embarrass the party, she could reveal matters, "certainly things about the Falklands war" that had not previously been made. public, she said:



Protest arrests: Peter Tatchell, a former Labour parliamentary candidate, being arrested in London yesterday during a march on Parliament to demand reform of laws on homosexuality. Several people were arrested for breaching a law banning marches within a mile of Parliament while MPs are sitting

Rise in students to cost £150m

By John O'Leary, Higher Education correspondent

partment expects polytech-

18-YEAR-OLDS

ENTERING HIGHER

EDUCATION

86-7 88-9 90-1 92-3 94-5

1990-1 revised

nics and colleges, which took

THE reluctance of students to join the government's loan scheme has saved education ministers from an overspend on student grants and fees of almost £100 million.

Universities, polytechnics and colleges took 54,000 more full-time students last autumn, committing the govincrease in spending on grants and fees. But the education department's annual report, published yesterday, showed that the low take-up of student loans more than compensated with a saving of £103 million.

With the number of applications for loans almost doubling this year, the saving will not be repeated, and the continuing growth in student numbers is expected to require an extra £150 million for grants and fees. By 1994.

expanding at such a rate that 35,000 more full-time stuthe education department exdents in the current academic pects institutions to have cut year, to have cut their costs their costs by more than 14 per student by more than 20 per cent in three years. per cent over a six-year per-Another 100,000 full-time iod. Last year they took 26,000 more students with students are expected by no more staff. 1994-95. The education de-

Universities will have made savings of 14 per cent in three years. In 1989-90, the last year for which figures have been finalised, they had the same number of students per member of staff as the polytechnics.

A spokeswoman for the Committee of Vice Chancellors and Principals said: "We have been saying for some time that we have got problems. This is why we are concerned about how universities are going to preserve the quality of their courses."

The report showed an expected rise of 10 per cent in - education, as part of an £800 and wasteful."

million increase in the department's total spending. One 18 year-old in four will be taking a higher education course, compared with one in seven in 1986-87.

☐ A £10 million rise in the cost of the Assisted Places Scheme, enabling children from low-income families to attend independent schools, was attacked by Jack Straw. Labour's education spokesman. The increase, disclosed in the department's report, came at a time when 6,000 places remained unfilled.

Both Labour and the Liberal Democrats are committed to abolishing the scheme. Mr Straw said: "While state schools are facing very serious cuts in budgets the government is writing blank cheques for private schools. The assisted places scheme is a failure -

Campaign seeks vow on income for BBC

BY MELINDA WITTSTOCK MEDIA CORRÉSPONDENT

LEADERS of the three main political parties have been urged by a distinguished group of authors, academics, actors and artists to commit themselves to maintaining the value of the BBC licence fee past the expiry of the corp-

oration's charter in 1996. In a letter to The Times today, the historian Lord Briggs, the author Iris Murdoch and the former Beatle George Harrison join eight others to call on John Major, Neil Kinnock and Paddy Ashdown to include in their parties' election manifestos a commitment to allowing the licence fee to rise at least in line with inflation.

The signatories, including David Plowright, forced to resign as Granada Television chairman by the parent comminded chief executive, also decry a BBC preoccupation with cuts, saying that the range and diversity of BBC programming is at "serious risk". They blame the BBC for too easily giving in to a preoccupation with cuts and free-market economics.

The other signatories are Terry Jones and Michael Palin, the Monty Python actors, Cameron Mackintosh, the West End producer, Anthony Sampson, the author, Brendan Foster, the former athlete and a BBC sports commentator, Sir Roy Strong, the art historian, and Richard Hoggart, author of The Uses of Literacy.

Today's letter is the first salvo in the Campaign For Quality Television's battle to ensure that the BBC maintains its public service broadcasting ethic into the next century. The campaign, which persuaded the government to add a quality requirement to the blind-bid auction for ITV licences, said yesterday that the BBC management should not buckle under commercial pressures.

Stewart Prebble, head of regional programmes at Gra-nada Television and a campaign member, said: "The BBC has accepted an agenda it does not need to accept and 🗈 viewers do not want it to

Letters, page 15

Thousand cancer patients given wrong radiation dose

By JEREMY LAURANCE, HEALTH SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

ABOUT a thousand cancer patients given radiotherapy treatment over the past ten years at North Staffordshire Hospital Centre received smaller doses of radiation than they should have because an x-ray system was wrongly programmed.

Cancer specialists said yes-terday that the error was "extremely serious" and that the treated patients were at risk of their tumours re-growing. Some patients received doses of radiation up to 30 per cent lower than prescribed. Yesterday, North Stafford-shire Health Authority an-

nounced it was setting up an independent clinical review to discover why the error went undetected for a decade. The mistake was discovered before Christmas by the medical physicist who made the original error in 1982, but it was not made public until yesterday to allow doctors to check through the patients' hospital

On Tuesday John Scoble and Murray Brunt, consultant clinical oncologists, wrote to 447 patients who are still alive offering them an appointment. Patients' GPs

have also been informed. Only patients treated by the isocentric technique, in which the x-ray machine is rotated around the body, were affected. They amount to 6 per cent of the 17,000 patients treat-ed over the decade. They include patients with lung, throat, bladder, pelvic and cervical cancers. Children and women with breast cancer were not affected.

The problem arose when a "correction factor", which adjusts the dose according to the distance of the radiation source from the skin, was unnecessarily programmed into the system's computer. The medical physicist responsible, who had 30 years of experience, did not realise that the correction factor was already built in, so a double correction was made.

This is the first known case of cancer patients being undertreated with radiation. In 1988, 207 patients at Exeter Hospital received excess

doses after an x-ray system was wrongly calibrated. More than £1 million com-

pensation has been paid. In their letter to the Stafford patients, Dr Scoble and Dr Brunt say that in spite of the reduced doses their treatment was given "satisfactorily and without any obvious clinically detectable difference in outcome from that which should be expected". Dr Brunt said yesterday: "As far as we are aware, no one has actually suffered."

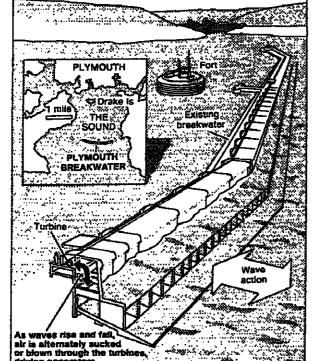
Other specialists disputed that assessment. Professor Karol Sikora, clinical oncologist at Hammersmith Hospital, London, said: "If up to a third too little radiation is given the patient may not be cured and could die from the

disease regrowing."

Jeffrey Tobias, consultant clinical oncologist and radiotherapist at University College Hospital, London, said: "A 30 per cent reduction in dose is extremely serious. There is risk of local recurrence and the need for sal-

Call analysis by date and time For cost control This report shows being made by giving date and time of day information. and management of their cellular Call analysis by cost bands This report allows you to identify call costs within up to 4 predefined cost system... Call analysis by duration bands Call analysis against budget This report is similar This report gives you the facility to assign a budget to report 2 but identifies call duration each phone and then identify those that exceed it rether than call cost. For this report, there are also 4 bands but they are fixed. It is possible to bar your phones from making international calls. However, if you do have mobiles making international calls they can be monitored with Out of business hours analysis-Calls made out of business hours may be social calls and unnecessary. By predefining your business hours, these calls can be detected and committed. Analysis of frequently called numbers It is important to know if some numbers are being called frequently because 4 may indicate the need for Direct Access or it may highlight a need for a tighter **SECURICOR National**

Plymouth harnesses wave power



By NICK NUTTALL TECHNOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

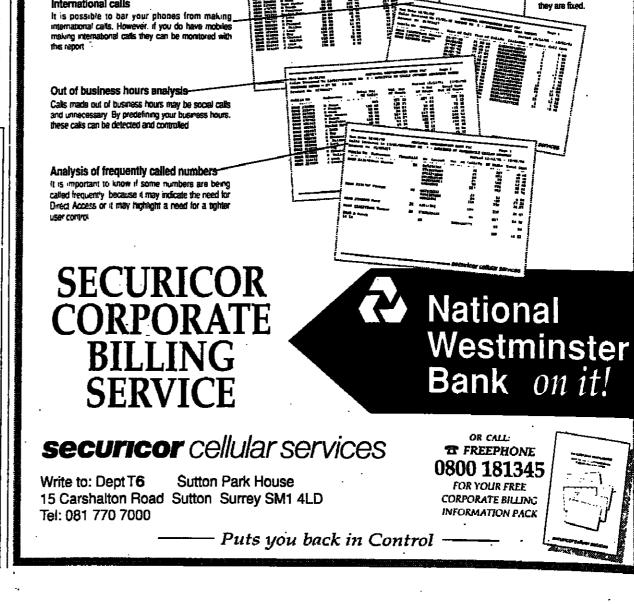
ENGINEERS are plan- bine as the water level rises ning to adapt a decaying breakwater built during the Napoleonic wars to generate electricity from Atlantic waves running through Plymouth Sound.

The scheme in co-operation with Coventry Polytechnic could become the largest of its kind in the world, providing up to 15 per cent of Plymouth with cheap and environment-friendly electricity. The project plans to harness variations of wave technology pioneered on the island of Islay by Queen's University, Belfast, and also developed by the National Engineering Laboratories at East Kilbride.

Such systems, known as oscillating water columns, use waves hitting the breakwater to alternately force and suck air through a turand falls between waves. In the Plymouth scheme 30 of the wave units will be built on the front of the half-mile breakwater which lies a mile and a half from the city. A consortium of com-

panies including Hoare Lea, a local firm of consulting environmental engineers, is working with the polytechnic which has a strong reputation in wave energy engineering. The consortium has applied to the energy department for £100,000 towards a ninemonth £200,000 study. The consortium plans to

funnel the electricity into a nearby power station. Alan Knight, of Hoare Lea, said: "For once wave power can be generated on the steps of a large city instead of at



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Depressed **Belfast** awaits new killings

Edward Gorman reports a mood of fear and apprehension on both sides as recent violence revives the terrors of the 1970s

YOU heard them wherever you went in Belfast yesterday: on everybody's lips, words of apprehension and fear in a tense city, anticipating yet

IDAY HELE

In the Catholic Falls and the Protestant Shankili roads, there was a simple depressing resignation about what is to come. More innocent people would die. There would be no resolution and nothing would be done by Britain.

At a taxi office on the Falls Road, a few blocks from the Sinn Fein advice centre where a policeman killed three people on Monday, a young man spoke shamelessly about his desire for civil war. The killing seemed to mean nothing to him. Without a trace of irony, he described it as "a way of life". Who cared who got killed, he said. "There has to be something dramatic to end it. I mean, about 3,000 killed in two weeks so that someone will stick their head up and do something."

Just up the road, the frustration came over in a different way from a softly spoken middle-aged woman serving in a small restaurant. She gestured at the road outside where soldiers from Glasgow or Birmingham risk their lives every day.

All we see out there, she said, are funerals. Yesterday it was the doorman of the Sinn Fein centre. The day before it was a Catholic taxi driver and today it was expected to be another of the noliceman's victims.

"For the past couple of years things haven't been too bad," she said. "People have been thinking it's almost normal again. But since Christmas, with the bombings and murders, it's been just like the Seventies again. There's a lot of fear around. I mean, they could come in here and do it on us and we'd be completely

She wanted to know when a British prime minister would have the courage to give Ireland back to the Irish people. "They haven't done what the people want, which is to give us our country. Who is going to be the man who will do it? Does he exist?"

From the Falls, driving across the so-called Peace Line — a wasteland of graffitiscrawled walls screaming communal hatred — to the Protestant Shankill on the other side takes just three

Many of the frustrations on the Shankill were the same. People are fed up with the intransigence of their politicians — there was hardly a good word to be heard for Ian Paisley — and desperately want the killing brought to an

A woman in her fifties serving in the Protestant equivalent of the little restaurant on the Falls said that Britain should pull the army out and let the gunmen slug it out. "They should put them in a field and let them blow each other to pieces," she said.

She and her friends feared that republicans would exact revenge for the betting shop murders of five Catholics on Wednesday. "You just know that, sooner or later, they are going to hit this road and it will be innocent people again," she said. "There has to be a stop to it."

Major calls meeting, page 1

Lawyers to test poll tax food facts

By Douglas Broom LOCAL GOVERNMENT

CORRESPONDENT THE first attempt to free a poll tax protester from prison using a loophole in the law on the use of computer evidence in court will be made next

loophole

Lawyers acting for Michael O'Connell, a man jailed last month by magistrates at Ealing, west London, for two months for refusing to pay the tax, will argue that computer records should not have been accepted as evidence that he had not paid. The application to the High Court for bail pending a judicial review of his case will take place less than six weeks before the government is due to close the loophole.

Figures published yester-day by the Labour-controlled Association of Metropolitan Authorities show that one in four people in London and other big cities has been summonsed for non-payment. Arguments over the admissibility of computer evidence have halted more than 20,000 poil tax cases in England. The government has said it will close the loophole by an amendment to the bili to introduce the council tax.

Nutrition centre sifts

By KERRY GILL

THE definitive guide to healthy eating, synthesised from the welter of advice and contradictory evidence that daily bombards the public, could soon be produced by the first nutrition centre of its kind in Europe.

Scotland's 15 health boards have funded the post-graduate nutrition and dietetic centre at Aberdeen's Rowett research institute. aimed at helping health professionals to sift through the confusion of dietary opinion and make sure that the public gets the correct information.

Aileen Robertson, director of the centre, said that people had become confused about what they should eat because of often contradictory advice. She said the amount of government literature and recommendations faced by people in the health service

added to the problem. A course at the centre will cover topics including coronary heart disease, obesity. diabetes, nutrition and healthy eating. A training road-show, piloted in Grampian region, is to be extended throughout the UK and Europe and possibly to America.

Law firms report rise in would-be recruits

By Frances Gibb, legal correspondent

low in the footsteps of lead-ing barristers flocked to the stand hosted by the Bar at the opening yesterday of the two-day Law Fair in London. The Bar was one of the main attractions at the recruitment event, attended by some 50 law firms and other legal employers such as the Crown Prosecution Service and magistrates courts' service.

The recesion is causing funding problems for stu-dents. Lee Winetroube, of the Bar Council, said: "We are very, very busy — much more so than before. Students seem vey keen to come to the Bar but they are worried about funding during their course. The dearth of the local authority discretionary grant is

having an impact."

Clyde and Co, the City law firm, reported being

STUDENTS aspiring to fol-much busier than last year and said students were anxious about securing a job. Lisa Wilson said: "They seem very worried about securing a vacation place, such is the competition."

The fair, organised by London University careers' advisory service and spon-sored by The Times, the Law Society, the Bar and the Institute of Legal Execntives, is open today from 10am to 4pm at the Busi-ness Design Centre, Upper Street, Islington, north

Today's seminars include women in the law, becoming a barrister, a career as a legal executive, legal alternatives and a talk on law and the press by Carol Leonard, a Times feature writer and editor of its City diary.

L&T section, page 9

Reynolds waltzes in as the Boss bows out

By Jamie Dettmer

THE era of the Boss in Irish politics passed away yesterday as Charles Haughey, one of the most tenacious and controversial politicians in the Irish republic's history, resigned and was replaced as leader of the main governing Fianna Fail party by Albert

Mr Reynolds, sacked as finance minister nearly three months ago after spearheading an attempt to oust Mr Haughey, gained the sup-port of 61 deputies in the ballot. He needed 39 to win.

Mary O'Rourke, the health minister, received ten votes, and six deputies supported Michael Woods, the agriculture minister. Mr Reynolds will become the Republic's ninth prime minister after being formally nominated in (parliament) as the country's new leader next

In a ballot of Fianna Fáil s 77 deputies yesterday Mr Reynolds, a dance hall manager turned pet food millionaire and one of Mr Haughey's closest colleagues until he turned critic last autumn, easily won the three-horse

The ballot was held hours after Mr Haughey, known in

Ireland as the Boss, formally resigned as party leader. Mr Haughey announced his attention to step down last week after allegations resurfaced about his involvement in a ten-year-old telephone tapping scandal.

Mr Reynolds will be in limbo until Mr Haughey hands in his resignation as prime minister to President Robinson on Monday night. Mr Reynolds's victory had been a foregone conclusion since last Sunday when Bertie Ahern, his closest rival for the job, announced he would not run.

Yesterday, Dubliners made jokey, if nervous, predictions that Mr Haughey would at the last minute change his mind about quit-ting and put himself forward as a candidate. In 12 years as Fianna Fáil leader he survived five serious attempts to oust him

For many in Fianna Fail, Mr Haughey's departure is a numbing experience. He has towered over Irish politics since winning the party lead-ership in 1979.

Mr Haughey's successor is not as forceful or colourful a character. Since his sacking last November, Mr Reynolds



Bumpy road ahead: Albert Reynolds waves to supporters after his victory

"chicken and chips circuit", glad-handing his way through local parties in an effort to drum up support among the Fianna Fail faithful. His efforts to draw Mr Haughey's leadership to an end were initially dismissed by the Boss's supporters as

mere country and western singing, a disparaging reference to Mr Reynolds's past

running of dance halls. First elected to the Dail in 1977, Mr Reynolds has had a vast amount of experience in government. As well as serving as finance minister he has held the portfolios of

industry, post and telegraphs

and transport. He is likely to sack up to six of the current cabinet, possibly including Gerry Collins, the current foreign minister. He clearly wants to clean up Fianna Fáil and distance the party from the accusations of political malpractice

which have dogged it under

Mr Haughey.

Speaking at a press conference after his election, Mr Reynolds said: "I am deeply sad that the day the votes were cast, which should be one of exhilaration and hope. is, instead, a day when I, as an Irishman, must feel diminished by the killings in the north of Ireland. So often have we condemned these murderous acts that we have impoverished the vocabulary of outrage. But we must prove that we have not bankrupted our determination to find a solution to this

Asked whether he would support the reintroduction of internment in Northern Ireland, he said: "We are all aware that this instrument of policy was tried way back in the 1970s. The British gov-ernment would have to take into account its failings

He said that he looked forward to working with John Major to try to end the conflict in Ulster. The cruelty of the continuing conflict in the north came from "a dwarfed and twisted patriotism which sees inflicted death as instruments of

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YOU KNOW WHERE TO COME

Home rescue schemes offer scant hope

THE mortgage rescue schemes unveiled by the government just before Christmas may make only a small dent in the 80,000 borrowers facing repossession, a study organised by The Times has shown.

Initial estimates that 20,000 borrowers could benefit are unlikely to be met. The figure could be as low as 5,000 by the end of the year unless building societies are prepared to loan money at interest rates lower than 6

Research devised by The Times in conjunction with Nick Raynsford from the housing consultant Rayn-sford & Morris, and compiled with the help of the Yorkshire Metropolitan Housing Association, a pioneer of mortgage rescue schemes, shows that only a quarter of the homeowners at which the scheme is aimed would be able to afford the high rents required.

Under the scheme, building societies will offer reduced-rate loans to housing associations to buy properties from borrowers in arrears. It is designed for people who have tried to meet payments in spite of having faced hardship through loss of income. The Yorkshire association analysed 40 couples in difficul-

a hatchback.

so it's likely to stay yours.

luxury of power steering.

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It could well have security deadlocks,

It's almost certain that you'll get the

The much-hyped mortgage rescue schemes are

unlikely to stop many people losing their homes, reports Rachel Kelly

ties in different parts of the country and found only ten who would qualify for The research examined

couples for who mortgage

rescue was the only chance of staying in their homes. It was based on building societies agreeing loans to housing associations at interest rates of both six and eight per cent. The current base mortgage rate is 10.95 per cent. Of the 40 case histories examined, only 14 still had equity in their house. They were the most eligible for rescue because they could sell to a housing association and become shared owners. The Yorkshire association

found that even four of those 14 would be unlikely to receive an offer of help because they would still find the rents required (£82.90 to £139.30 a week) unaffordable.

They would face paying such a substantial proportion of their income that the ble." David Ratcliffe, development director, said.

For the 26 couples with no equity "it's bad news". Mr Ratcliffe added. Even a couple living in the cheapest housing area looked at in the research, the east Midlands, would find the rents required barely affordable.

'None of the couples without equity could be helped without some form of extra subsidy," he said. "Some would face paying 44 per cent of their income in

Most couples qualifying for rescue will face such high rents that they will not qualify for housing benefits. because a lot of the rents will be above the limits set by local authorities. The only building society to have produced details of its mortgage-to-rent rescue scheme is the Nationwide which surprised the industry by disclosing that some of its loans to housing associations would have interest rates ranging from 3.5 per cent to 8 per cent. The Nationwide

families from repossession. Mr Raynsford said: "Despite all the hype prior to Christmas, only one scheme and a pilot one involving one hundred homes, is all that has emerged. It's extraordi-

scheme hopes to save 100

MORTGAGE RESCUE

Examples show how rescue is difficult for borrowers with little or no equity in their homes. The couple in the North-West benefit because their mortgage is only 60 per cent of house value.

| | BAD NEWS | | GOOD NEWS | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|--|--|
| Income per yr | £11,722 | 13,244 | 13,289 | |
| House value | £53,000 | 76,000 | 58,000 | |
| Mortgage plus arrears | 100% £5,000 | 80 10,000 | 60 5,000 | |
| Repayments | £115 a wk | 155 | 82 | |
| interest on loan | 6% | 6% | 8% | |
| Rent after rescue | 90.29 a wk | 82.00 | 38.61 | |
| Status of home owner | Tenant | Shared owner | Shared owner | |
| Outcome | Rent would be 40% of | Rent would be 33% of | Rent would be 15% of income plus | |

cost, and so

South-East

Yorkshire & Humberside nary that no one else has come out with a scheme. The Nationwide scheme works by deciding on affordable rents and then setting very low interest rates to match. That's how they've squared the circle. I'm not sure they could justify the scheme with those interest rates for

any significant number of

There are grave doubts whether all other societies involved in rescue plans will feel able to offer rates as low as 3.5 per cent. Don Wood, chief executive of the London and Quadrant Housing Trust, one of the three associations to have negotiated a deal with Nationwide, said: "Your research shows that with interest rates of 6 and 8

North-West

become unaffordable. The figures from The Times justify the stand we were taking on affordability in our negotiations with building societies. We calculated that we needed lower rates of inter-

est." Mr Wood said. Asked whether other building societies would be able to match the low interest rates offered by the Nationwide, Mr Wood said: "I simply couldn't tell you. But I am more hopeful now than I was. I hope the Nationwide deal will be a benchmark."
The association said: "The

Nationwide's deal was very generous but other societies may not be so generous."

David Gilchrist, general

manager of the country's largest building society, the Halifax, said: "Six to 8 per cent looks like being the top end of the range of negotiations. Housing associations are pressing for something lower than that."
The Woodwich building so-

ciety has yet to announce the rates it will be charging housing associations, but a spokesman said they would be about 7 per cent.

Of the 80,000 borrowers facing repossession, 60.000 do not qualify to be considered for rescue schemes.

Leading article, page 15

Self-help initiatives need aid, prince says

By JOHN YOUNG

THE Prince of Wales yesterday called for more support for local community initiatives from central and local government and from the private sector.

In a message to mark the launch of the seventh annual Community Enterprise Scheme organised by The Times, the Royal Institute of British Architects and Business in the Community, the prince, who is patron of the scheme, welcomed the increasingly significant role that community-based initia-tives were being asked to play in regeneration, but said that there had to be ways of increasing the level of support and training.

The prince's message was read by Lord Scarman, chairman of the scheme, who said



ınat its aim was to help people to help themselves. Far from being confined to the inner cities, it also recognised that much needed to be done in suburbs and villages.

John Thompson, of Hunt Thompson Associates, said that community architecture would be firmly on the agenda of the new Institute of Architecture to be set up under the prince's patronage. Courses would include

nmunity experience. This year, for the first time, the awards scheme has attracted Scottish support in the shape of the Royal Incor-poration of Architects in Scotland and Scottish Business in the Community. The other sponsors are the Calouste Guibenkian Foundation, the National Children's Play and Recreation Unit. the Housing Associations Charitable Trust, Kinglisher. United Biscuits (UK), the Post Office, Marks & Spencer and Kwik-Fit Holdings.

Entry forms from The Administrator, Community Enterprise Scheme, 66 Portland Place. London WIN 4AD. Closing date Monday, March 30.

Four are jailed as longest trial ends

Britain's longest trial came to an end after 17 months yesterday with the jailing of four men convicted of fraud and deception.

The trial, at Nottingham crown court, followed a twoyear police investigation into the collapse in 1985 of the Britannia Theme Park, near Ilkeston, Derbyshire, which owed more than 59 million Peter Kellard, aged 57, of Bournemouth, who launched the project through a development group, was jailed for four years after being convicted of 19 charges.

Kellard's close colleague. Edward Dwyer, aged 54, was iailed for two and a half years. Kenneth Page, former director, and John Wright, former chairman, each received sixmonth sentences.

There were 375 witnesses and the case cost £3 million. The jury used computers to keep track of the evidence.

Woman priest

The Rev Patricia Pinkerton. who ran a Californian Episcopal church for five years, has become minister in charge of two parishes in the Forest of Dean. She will be assisted by a clergyman.

Crew rescued

Three Weymouth fishermen summoned help with a mobile phone after the radio of their stricken vessel failed. They were winched to safety by a navy helicopter before the boat sank two miles off Abbotsbury, Dorset.

Crash award

Colin Middleton, a draughtsman aged 39 who lost his right arm after his motor cycle was in a crash with a car, was awarded £149.958 damages against the driver at the Court of Session. Edinburgh.

Forged coins

Police seized moulds, ingots and 3,000 forged £1 coins in a raid on Castle Mouldings, a factory in Medway. Kent. Two men have been arrested

Brick by brick

A Victorian chapel threatened with demolition is to be dismantled and moved 60 miles from Salisbury. Wiltboys' school. Berkshire.

WOMAN IN

THE NEWS

have been criticisms of the length of the Barlow Clowes trial and the number of

charges on the original indictment. Mrs Mills has exercised more control over

the format of prosecutions.

but some lawyers say she

been criticised for use of its

power to compel people to answer questions under the Criminal Justice Act 1987.

has not been prosecution for

its own sake. It has been

concern for victims who

have lost money, which she cites as justification for what have been called the fraud

office's "draconian" investi-

gative powers. After taking over the fraud office, Mrs

Mills found herself heading

high-profile cases such as

Guinness. The fraud office

has also been investigating

Educated at St Helen's School, Northwood, Lon-

don, and Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford, where she

read law, Mrs Mills made

her Bar career largely as a prosecutor. She was seen as

good and solid", rather than brilliant. She was junior Treasury counsel at the Central Criminal Court

from 1981 to 1986. She

the Maxwell affair.

Mrs Mills's motivation

has not gone far enough. The fraud office has also

Mills brings zeal to battered role

By Frances Gibb LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

BARBARA Mills, QC, the first woman Director of Public Prosecutions, takes

Mrs Mills, aged 51 and a mother of four, has had a higher profile than her predecessor at the fraud office, John Wood. In raising the credit stakes of the office, she has drawn criticism of its methods, and of what some see as over-zealous prosecuting.

threw the case out. They recall Mrs Milis's comment at a Law Society conference that a professional would not find himself in the dock unless there were a prima facie case against him.

Verdicts are expected soon in the Barlow Clowes and County NatWest cases. investigations crucial to any assessment of the office, set

Mrs Mills has to restore confidence in the Crown Prosecution Service after the resignation of Sir Allan Green, QC, after kerb-crawling allegations. Service lawyers will be delighted, not least because Mrs Mills will continue their fight for

Mrs Mills has said that she believes more use can be made of pre-trial reviews to identify issues and of multiprofessional investigations by teams of lawyers, accountants and police.

Mills chosen, Page Leading article, page 15

her post at critical time for the criminal justice system. She will have an important role in restoring public confidence, battered by miscarriages of justice.

Mrs Mills is likely to do the job with zeal. In just

under 18 months as director of the Serious Fraud Office, she has gone about her work with crusading enthusiasm and efficiency, doing much to put the office on the map.

Many City lawyers have not forgiven her the prose-cution of Alan Keat, of the City firm Travers Smith Braithwaite, in the County NatWest trial. The judge

Mills: concern for the

was also second prosecuting counsel in the Guinness trial, and defended Winston Silcott. up three years ago. There rights of audience in the CTOWN COURT.

victims of fraud

many a British Touring Car Championship If you still haven't twigged, here are race in its time. a few more clues. packages. It probably has RDS, a system that It's a saloon, though it could also be

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WOWAN N THE NEWS

DAY HERE THE

Doctors call for fuller testing

Africa link detected among Aids mothers

By Thomson Prentice, medical correspondent

THREE out of four pregnant women found by a London hospital to be infected with the Aids virus were of African origin. The rapid spread of the virus in Asia also makes it likely that a growing number of cases will occur among the Asian community here, according to doctors.

The evidence, reported in The Lancer today, gives insights into the heterosexual spread of HIV and suggests that many cases are imported unwittingly into Britain. The researchers call for all pregnant women in areas of London and other cities with high rates of infection to be encouraged to take an HIV blood test on a named basis, rather than anonymously as now, regardless of their ethnic origins.

Junga Banatvala, professor of virology at St Thomas's Hospital, southeast London, who led the study, said yesterday: "Such a programme would help in prevention and surveillance of the epidemic.

We are extremely anxious to avoid what used to be seen as a gay plague being regarded as a black plague. "The Aids virus knows no

racial barriers. It is not a question of the colour of your skin, but where you have been, and what you have done there. It would be invidious to target HIV testing at specific ethnic categories." That would fail to identify any spread of infection beyond such groups, and selective screening was known to be inefficient, he said.

The report is a sequel to a finding by the same researchers of a ninefold increase in HIV infection among women attending the hospital's antenatal clinics between 1988 and 1990. A new analysis of their blood samples shows that ten out of 13 HIV-positive women — 77 per cent — were of African origin. Nine of the ten also had malarial antibodies, suggesting that they had recently been in a tropical country. In a group

of women whose ethnic origins were unknown, the five who were HIV-positive also had malarial antibodies.

Professor Banatala said that there should be further studies in inner London to identify risk categories and to see if HIV spreads beyond them, so that prevention could be targeted accurately.

"With the increasing spread of HIV in many parts of Africa and Asia, it is obvious that people moving between them and Britain are at increased risk of becoming infected and importing that infected into the UK.

"We need much more accurately targeted methods of monitoring the spread here. If pregnant women agree to be tested on an identifiable basis, we can offer those who are infected counselling, support, and care for their babies if they decide to continue with the pregnancy."

Diary, page 14 Health, L&T section, page 6



On parade: soldiers of the 1st British Tank Regiment showing off their babies at Fallingbostel, Germany. Homecoming celebrations after the Gulf war resulted in a baby boom with 137 births among wives of troops based in Germany

Transplant drug controls asthma

A DRUG used to prevent organ rejection in transplant patients has been found to transform the lives of chronic asthma sufferers (Thomson

The drug, cyclosporin, is a standard treatment after heart and other transplants because it suppresses part of the immune system. Doctors report in *The Lancet* today that the drug also produces a marked improvement among chimnic, severe asthmatics, including some who have endured asthma attacks for more than 25 years.

The finding could open the way to the development of a new range of drugs which, like cyclosporin, suppress the activity of T-cells that are important in the body's natural defences. These sells have been found to be activated in

chronic asthma.

The research suggests that new drugs could benefit many of the 200,000 asthmatics who depend on high doses of steroids to control their condition. Cyclosporin improved lung function and reduced the number of severe attacks in a group of patients at the Royal Brompton Nat-

ional Heart and Lung Hospi

Andrew Alexander, a clinical research fellow, and colleagues at the hospital say in the journal that improvements occurred throughout the 12-week study period and might have continued if the treatment had been extended. One patient, a woman aged 47, could now run for a bus and go dancing, which she has been unable to do for many years.

Barry Kay, head of the hospitals' allergy and clinical immunology department, and one of the co-authors of the study, said yesterday: "High doses of steroids have serious side effects, such as diabetes, and do not always control adequately severe, intractable

forms of asthma. He said that cyclosporin could also cause dangerous side effects, such as liver damage. The long-term safety and efficacy for asthmatics still had to be determined. The real importance of our discovery is that it opens the way for a new class of anti-asthma drugs that are more selective and less toxic in suppressing the activity of T-cells."



Roddick: ordered to remove factory sign

Body shop chief loses sign fight

Anita Roddick, managing director of the Body Shop store chain, has been ordered to remove a billboard put up without planning permission outside the firm's factory in Littlehampton, West Sussex.

The board displays messages reflecting Mrs Roddick's philosophy. Residents say it is an eyesore that distracts drivers. Her appeal to the environment department against Arun district council's planning refusal has failed. The council said: "Unless she takes it down soon she will face prosecution."

M-way closed

A nine-mile stretch of the M50 was closed after cracks were found in a bridge support on the Severn near Tewkesbury, Gloucestershire. Police said that rush hour traffic jams in the area were expected for at least a week.

Rape hoaxer

Wilma Wetherow, aged 22, of no fixed address, was jailed for three months by Bow Street magistrates court, London, for hoax phone calls in which she told police she was being raped.

Body found Police divers recovered a body

rouse divers recovered a body thought to be that of Kenneth Hales, aged 45, missing after the capsize of a lifeboat in which another man died at Hull on Wednesday.

Jail boasts the best porridge

By KERRY GILL

ASK an old lag to name the man over whom he would most like to tip a bowl of porridge and the answer is the prison cook.

However, Bill White,

head of catering at Friarton prison, near Perth, is unlikely to be smothered in "halesome parritch". Although he has only £6.20 a week to spend on each prisoner, yesterday inmates and prison inspectors declared his fare the best in Scotland's penal service. It is even served on china instead of tin trays.

A report by the Scottish

prisons inspectorate says that Friarton "is the one where the inmates have displayed the most appreciation of the regime ... Indeed, more than one prisoner opined that the prison was almost too good for them."

Alan Bishop, the chief prisons inspector, said: "We were told of the very high standard of catering, many prisoners syggesting that it was the best food in the whole service. Our own observations did not lead us to regard the comments as exaggerated."

Jim Harker, governor of the jail, said: "Because we are a small prison, the food can be freshly cooked."

Porridge need not be the breakfast staple of Friarton's 70 inmates. Yesterday, they could begin with boiled egg. toast, bread and tea. Special diets and preferences are catered for, and inmates going out in working parties may tell Mr White their favourite fillings for sandwiches.

Tomorrow 15 tons of porridge oats will be flown to St Petersburg by the Salvation Army and Fife Rotary clubs to help to feed its people.

High in polyunsaturates. Low in saturates.

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Let's make one thing clear. "I Can't Believe It's Not Butter!" is not butter.

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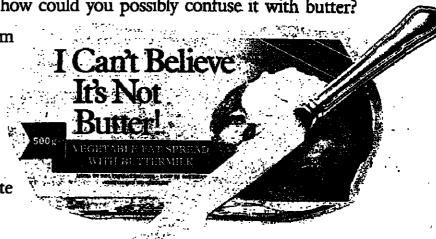
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Then spread it on and take a bite. You may find the taste reminds you of something you know and love.

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Labour condemns 'deceit' over slump

BY PETER MULLIGAN AND JOHN WINDER

LABOUR last night accused and hypocrisy for proclaiming the Tory message of economic recovery to their readers while reserving the real story for shareholders

Gordon Brown, the shadow trade and industry spokesman, said ministers were relying on a huge public relations offensive from some tabloids and from party advertising campaigns to conceal their economic record.

During a Labour-inspired debate on the recession, he scorned Conservative sightings of an upturn and spoke of the "recovery by phrasemakers" dreamed up over a working breakfast which "even the messengers do not

Mr Brown provoked loud laughter among his backbenchers by quoting the words of The Sun: "It looks good. Britain's on the way. We are OK in the UK. If that's depression, let's have more of it.

He then quoted from the report last September to the shareholders of News International, the paper's owners: "Economic conditions as they affect the media are not expected to improve during the

Mr Brown cited Associated Newspapers, owners of the Daily Mail: "Such limited signs of recovery in the UK economy as are visible remain patchy and do not give us any grounds for opti-

He reported the chief executive of Saatchi and Saatchi. the firm which is handling the election advertising campaign for Conservative Central Office, as saying: "I do not expect trading to be any easier this year. The length and severity of the current recession are unresolved."

The entire Tory propaganda machine made a sharo distinction between the message it put to voters and the one that went to directors and shareholders, Mr Brown said. "One truth for the public who they are prepared to deceive and another truth for directors and shareholders and the City audience on whom they depend. The public are being treated with

Mr Brown rejected John Major's assertion that Britain was caught up in a world recession. "There is no world recession. The only conclusion that can be drawn is that the prime minister is condemned by his own words as economically illiterate," he

He ridiculed ministerial forecasts of recovery, declared they could not be trusted and rejected accusations that he was talking Britain down. Peter Lilley, the trade and industry secretary, said that

Labour policy was tailor-made to undermine all three. Labour policies would send inflation soaring; Labour would be obliged to put up interest rates, and commen-tators differed only on the extent to which they would have to raise them. All nine important research houses which had analysed the impact of a Labour government.

the preconditions of sus-

tained recovery were low in-flation, reduced interest rates

and renewed confidence, but

recast higher interest rates. Every Labour government had had to face a choice of whether to maintain the present parity of the pound or to devalue. In the past every Labour government had first put up interest rates, then bottled out" and devalued. Mr Lilley said.

The Labour proposal for tax allowances for investment in new technology and "genu-ine innovation" meant In-land Revenue having to ver every investment in plant and machinery to decide whether each piece of equipment was sufficiently sophisticated. "A more guaranteed way to delay every investment is hard to imagine but that is their

Labour nationalisation plans would have an adverse effect in areas of the economy which were at present buoyant. Their policies would prolong and deepen recession.

Take two aspirin and go to the lobby

By Sheila Gunn, Political Correspondent

quiry to consider a system

of proxy voting.
As part of their reforms of Commons working practices. MPs on the select committee have been investigating a scheme to record MPs' votes while absent in limited circumstances. They are expected to demand a separate enquiry by the procedure committee into the implications.

The parties' business managers, including John MacGregor, the leader of the House, favour informal "usual channels" to deal with sick MPs.

In recent years the large majority Conservative gov-ernments have had little need to drag MPs from their sickbeds. Many MPs are also "paired" for routine votes to exempt them from taking part in every

The committee now has one eye on the prospect of a hung Parliament or narrow majority, as happened at times during the 1960s and 1970s. Its report will be published early next month and it will press for a decision by the Commons before the election.

When every vote is re-garded as crucial and the pairing system breaks down, the whips can rarely afford to show any sympa-thy for those in hospital or the recently bereaved, as

THE spectre of ambulances decanting alling MPs into a hung Parliament has spurred a parliamentary en-

After the breakdown of the pairing system in the late 1970s, many divisions hung on the attendance of all 650 MPs, however ill. Sir Alfred Broughton, the then Labour MP for Batley and Morley, was one of those brought in by ambulance to support the Callaghan gov-ernment during its final weeks. The Labour leadership refused to wheel in Sir Alfred on March 30, 1979; as a result it lost the confi-

dence vote by one. Sir Alfred died four days later. " The problem for the Comnons committee has been to limit the scheme to genuine cases. Two disputed areas are the absence of MPs through family be-reavement and women MPs when heavily pregnant or within days of giving birth. The former prime minis

ter Edward Heath told the committee now much he dead MPs into the division whip in the 1950s. However, he opposed a proxy voting system because, he argued, absent MPs would not have listened to the arguments in the chamber. As Mr Heath will be 76 and in his 42nd parliamentary year after the election, MPs on the committee will no doubt have his welfare in mind when considering a

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House doctor: John MacGregor favours "usual channels" to deal with sick MPs

Counties

may get

new seats

By ROBERT MORGAN

THE Boundary Commission has recommended the cre-

ation of three more parlia-

mentary constituencies in

Hampshire and Berkshire. If

gain three extra MPs from

No change will be made before the forthcoming elec-

tion and they might not be in place for the following one.

The commission is re-quired by statute to review

shift. It tries to arrange boun-

daries so that there are

60.000-70.000 voters in each

seat. The Parliamentary Con-

stituencies Act. 1986 lays

down that, as far as possible,

county and London borough

boundaries are to be followed

and electorates are to be as near equal as possible.

Berkshire has seven constit-

uencies and its present elec-

torate indicates it should have

7.92 seats. The commission

suggests an eighth seat, Bracknell. Hampshire, the commission says, should have

two new seats, bringing its total to 17. Unless additional

seats are created the average

electorate in each of its exist-

ing seats would be 79,378.

With 17 seats the average will

be 70,039. The changes will

divide the seat of New Forest

into East and West, and a new seat of Meon Valley will

Although the Isle of Wight,

on an electorate basis, should

have more than one but fewer

The commission is review-

ing all seats in England and

has to submit its plans for the whole country between 1993 and 1998. The last wholesale

changes were made between the 1979 and 1983 elections,

amid controversy over the change of name for many

familiar seats.

than two MPs, the commission recommends no change.

be created.

these true blue shires.

the recommendations are endorsed by Parliament, the To-ries would almost certainly

THE LOBBY

AROUND

Hunt bill loses

John Major will not be voting for the private mem ber's bill to ban hunting with dogs when it comes before the Commons next

support

Tony Banks, Labour MP for Newham North West, thanked the prime minister for allowing ministers a free vote on a bill that would protect deer. hares and foxes. Mr Major said the bill went a good deal wider than Mr Banks had suggested and that he would not be supporting it.

Beefing up the army

Ministers are looking at ways of providing British beef for the armed forces rather than meat imported from South America. John Gummer, the agriculture minister, said at question time. David Clark. his shadow, had asked him how the defence minis try could import thousands of tonnes when almost one million tonnes were already in intervention in

Moscow trip

Sir Geoffrey Howe, the former foreign secretary, is to lead an Inter-Parliamentary Union delegation to Moscow and Kiev next week. The group, which in-cludes Ann Clwyd, the shadow overseas aid minister, hopes to meet political leaders and members of the

Roads pledge

ag inv

The transport department will announce plans later this month to improve maintenance on motorways and to speed up the backlog of essential repairs. Christopher Chope, the roads and traffic minister, said in a written

Land grants

The government's derelical land grant for England is to be increased by £18 million to £106 million in the next financial year, Sir George Young, the planning minister, said in a written ply. The money, most of which goes to local authorities, is sufficient to fund the reclamation of about 3,700 acres.

Parliament today Commons (9.30): Private member's bill: Timeshare Bill, second reading.

Week ahead

The main business in the House of Commons next week is expected to be: Monday: Offshore Safety Bill, second reading. Tuesday: Further and Higher Education Bill. second reading and timetable motion.

Wednesday: Proceedings on Consolidated Fund (No 2) Bill. Museums and Galleries Bill, second reading. Thursday: Army Bill, second reading.
Thursday: Army Bill, second reading.
Friday: Private member's bill: Wild Mammals (Protec-

tion) Bill, second reading. The main business in the Lords is expected to be: Monday: Asylum Bill, sec-ond reading. Tuesday: Education (Schools) Bill, second

Wednesday: Debate on weapons of mass destruction Thursday: Coal Industry Bill, committee. Debate on human rights in North-ern Ireland.

Olympic protest

reading.

By JILL SHERMAN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

A TORY backbencher has complained to Juan Antonio Samaranch, president of the International Olympic Committee, about money being spent on adventising the European Commission at international sporting events.

Tony Favell, MP for Stockport, wrote to Señor Sam-aranch yesterday saying £8 million had been committed as a grant for public relations projects at the Olympics. "Could you please let rue have your assurance that the European Commission will not be permitted to use the Olympics as a political vehicle."

The Olympic charter says: "No kind of demonstration or political, religious or racial propaganda is permitted in the Olympic areas."

The IOC rejected a request by Jacques Delors, the commission president, that he open the Winter Games to-



Favell: questioning EC advertising in sport

morrow, and his suggestion that the 12 EC nations march together, wearing the EC symbol. The committee did accept a reported £10 million fee to allow the commission some involvement - as yet unspecified - in the opening ceremony.

David Miller, page 32

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Security council retains sanctions

Saddam challenges terms of ceasefire

FROM JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

PRESIDENT Saddam Hussein of Iraq, apparently gam-bling that he can outlast John Major and President Bush, has launched a challenge to the terms of the Gulf war ceasefire.

Baghdad has rejected outright a United Nations plan for the long-term monitoring of its arms industry, and has pulled out of talks with the UN on resuming oil sales to pay for humanitarian sup-plies. The Iraqi position amounts to a clear violation of mandatory UN resolutions, and once again puts the country on a collision course with the security council.

In their bimonthly review of the UN embargo, the council yesterday decided not to relax the comprehensive sanctions against Iraq. It issued a statement saying it was "disturbed by the lack of Iraqi co-operation", particularly in the elimination of weapons of mass destruction, talks on a limited oil sale and the repatriatiion of Kuwaiti detainees and property.

Diplomats said further action was possible against Iraq, although they were uncertain just how to proceed. "Stand by for further news," said Thomas Pickering, the American ambassador, after reading the security council

A senior Western diplomat said: "We are gradually moving towards some difficult



Al-Anbari: will not be pursuing oil sale talks

dealing with Saddam Hussein. It is not a day-to-day, week-to-week issue. It is an issue of keeping the security council committed to compli-ance with its resolutions."

The head of the UN special commission charged with disarming Iraq is due to report today that Iraq has re-fused to provide a detailed report on its defence industries, as required by the security council.

Senior Iraqi officials told the UN delegation sent to Baghdad to discuss the dis-pute that Iraq "would not make any further declara-tions" on its arms production plans. At the same time, Iraq has "cancelled" a second round of talks with the UN about resuming oil sales.

authorised Iraq last August to sell \$1.6 billion (£890 million) of oil over a six-month period so that it could buy food and other essential supplies for its population. But the resolution allowing the sale required about one-third-of the total to go towards financing the UN compensation fund for Gulf war victims and the UN programme to climinate Iraq's weapons of mass destruction.

After months of stalling. Iraq opened talks about a possible oil sale with the United Nations in Vienna last

month. However, Abdul

Amir al-Anbari, the Iraqi am-

bassador at the UN, now says that Baghdad considers UN restrictions on the proposed oil sale unacceptable and will not pursue the talks. Novelty line: a woman demonstrating a Exiled Iraqi Muslim Shias mobile telephone yesterday claimed by its said yesterday that army units Japanese maker, NEC Corporation, the had been deployed recently computer firm, to be the world's smallest. along the main Baghdad "It is very convenient - small and light highway to Amara, south of the Iraqi capital, after Shia enough to slip into a shirt pocket," an NEC

0.83 in thick, 2.2 in wide and 6 in long. The telephone will make its debut in America this month and will be marketed in more than 30 countries, though not in Japan, Kotaro Kato, an NEC manager, said. It will cost about \$1.800 (£990) and NEC official said. The P4 weighs 7.76oz, is expects to sell 60,000 a month. (Reuter)



JAPAN is convinced it deserves a permanent seat on the United Nations Security Council and, while anxious not to be seen twisting arms,

aims for a seat in 1995, the

UN's 50th anniversary year. At last week's security council summit, Kiichi Miyazawa, the Japanese prime minister. dropped hints about Japan's ambitions and proposed discussions on the structure of the UN in the light of the new post-cold war world order.

His hints were tentative and Mr Miyazawa received the usual reminders that the inclusion of Japan in the security council's permanent membership would require an unprecedented change in the UN charter.

However Japan takes so-lace in the fact that the validity of the council's structure, which Japan believes obsolete, is at last coming under scrutiny from the rest of the

Tokyo is one of the UN's chief paymasters (contribut-ing more than Britain and France combined), yet is blocked from permanent membership and denied "reasonable" executive representation in the UN.

Korean plotters executed

IN TOKYO

NORTH Korea has executed more than ten people for a plot against Kim Jong II, who took over the country's military command in December from his father, President Kim Il Sung, according to a Japanese newspaper.

The Sankei Shimbun Teported from Seoul that among those executed were three middle-ranking military officers, including a regimental commander, and an unspecified number of officiministry. The newspaper said Western intelligence learnt of the coup attempt from Chinese sources. The incident took place last year but no precise date or other details ere made available.

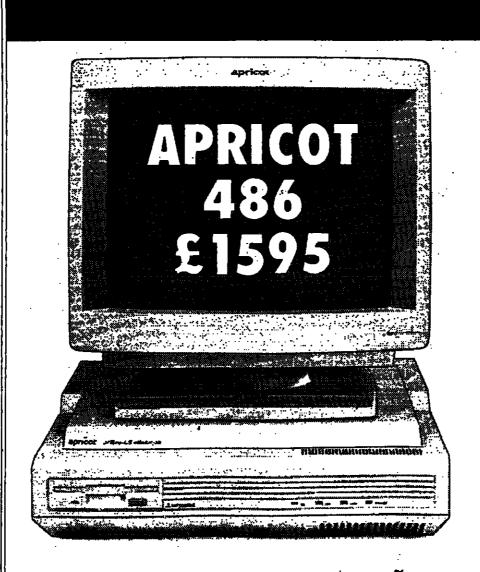
The intelligence sources said rumours were circulating in the Chinese-Korean border area that the plotters tried to replace Mr Kim Jong Il with Mr Kim Sung Il, the president's illegitimate child. North Korea's news agency issued rare photographs of Mr Kim Jong II as part of the buildup to his 50th birthday

on February 16 amid rumours that he would soon succeed his father as state

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| Dell Systems 486D/20 | 4МЬ | 50Mb | SVGA | £1764 | |
| Tandon MCS | 4Mb | 40Mb | VGA | £1599 | |
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While for just £75 extra, you can opt for an integral network interface for instant plug-and-go connectivity to every major networking system.

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To understand this, you need to understand a little about Apricot.

Apricot is an original computer company in every sense of the word. We have always designed, developed and manufactured our own machines here in the UK to a dual philosophy of innovation with quality.

We were the first company to produce a PC designed to IBM's Micro-Channel architecture (the Apricot Qi range).

We're also one of the few companies in the world to offer both AT and Micro-Channel compatible computers: AT for value, Micro-Channel for sheer

We were the first company in the world to produce a 486.

We are market leader in network-ready LAN stations and dedicated file

And faced with the choice of the cheapest way to produce our systems or the-best, we always opt for the latter. Then we apply our ingenuity to building them cost-effectively.

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| 16MHz 386SX | IMb | 100Mb | £1295 | £1495 | N/A |
| 20MHz 386SX | 2Mb | 50Mb | £1195 | £1395 | £1495 |
| 20MHz 386SX | 2Mb | 100Mb | £1395 | £1595 | £1695 |
| 20MHz 4865X | 4Mb | 50Mb | £1595 | £1795 | £1895 |
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Not only does this enhance performance, but it also allows us to build machines with an unusually small footprint. (For those who care, an Apricot is still the best-looking PC you can buy.)

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statement to the press. The security council **C&G investment**: INTEREST GROSS %* NET% **AMOUNT** 6.56 £25,000 or more Annually £10,000-£24,999 Annually 8.35 6.26 £1.000-£9,999 Annually 7.15 5,36 £25,000 or more Monthly 8.42** 6.31 8.05** 6.04 £10,000-£24,999 Monthly £5,000-£9,999 Monthly 6.93** 5.20 £100 or more Annually C&G Flexi-TESSA Maximum permitted under 11.25% TAX-FREE Annually **TESSA** rules £100 or more 10.15% TAX-FREE £2,500 or more £5,000 or more Monthly 9.93** 7.45 C&G Guardian no longer available Quarterly 10.02 C&G Guardian Super Shares Half Yearly 10.14 no longer available Ouarterly 10.02 **C&G Maxi-TESSA** investment no longer available Half Yearty Cheltenham 4-Year Term Shares Annually 7.12 New Accounts no longer available Monthly 6.89 £25,000 or more Annually 9,38 9.08 12.10 £5,000-£24,999 Annually 11_84** 8.88 £25,000 or more Monthly 11.48** 8.61 £5,000-£24,999 Monthly OTHER ACCOUNTS: All other accounts are reduced by 0.75% gross (0.56% net).

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Gang man says police aided black violence

FROM GAVIN BELL IN JOHANNESBURG

A CATALOGUE of intrigue and murder in South Africa's black townships, allegedly involving policemen, is emerging from a judicial commission of enquiry into political violence.

A young man testified yesterday that the Inkatha Freedom party, led by Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi, recruited members of a criminal gang known as the Black Cats to attack supporters of the African National Congress with the backing of Inkatha gunmen. The man, a former member of the gang. said they had been provided with firearms and trained by a man with a South African police identification card, before embarking on a killing spree in Wesselton, in the eastern Transvaal. On one occasion, he said, they fire-bombed a lawyer's office at the suggestion of a local

The witness, whose identity was not disclosed, spoke of tension between the Black

Cats and a civic association allied to the ANC, which led to violence and ultimately the gang's recruitment by Inkatha. According to his testimony, the gang was formed in Wesselton early in 1990, supposedly as a vigilante group to combat crime. However, some members turned to assault and robbery, incurring the ire of the local civic

When the home of a gang member was burned down, the Black Cats assaulted civic leaders, and were in turn attacked by civic supporters and a large group from another township. At this point, an official of an inkatha-affiliated trade union offered the gang support if it joined Inkatha. A group of armed men from Uhundi in the KwaZulu tribal homeland, the Inkatha stronghold, arrived to escort a funeral procession for a gang member killed in the clashes. They encountered a funeral party

for an ANC supporter and

opened fire on the crowd, killing two people.

In August 1990, most of the Black Cats were taken to KwaZulu for training about firearms and abduction techniques. On their return to Wesselton, Inkatha was formally launched in the township and Chris Ngwenya, the gang leader, was elected to its local committee. He is now the chairman of the Inkatha youth brigade in the nearby town of Ermelo.

The gang then stepped up its attacks on ANC supporters with guns, grenades and knives, and gained the upper hand with the assistance of a policeman, the witness said. Funerals continued to precipitate clashes.

A peace agreement signed by Inkatha and the ANC last year has failed to curb political violence in the townships. Police said yesterday that four people were shot dead in their beds in a Natal township by unidentified men with AK47

Israel's poor pin hope on election

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN PETAH TIKWA. ISRAEL

IF YITZHAK Shamir, the Israeli prime minister, ever suffers re-election jitters. then the muddy caravan site located on the edge of Petah Tikwa deserves to figure in his campaign manager's bad dreams.

Buffeted by the wind and rain of a winter gale, the 240 mobile homes at Kfar Syrkin provide at best minimum housing for the Soviet immigrant and homeless Israeli families living in cramped conditions behind paper-thin glassfibre walls. "We have never regretted coming to Israel," said

Yelena, who left her native Uzbekistan two years ago with her husband and two daughters to escape the out-break of bloody ethnic riots. "We are proud of being Is-raelis, but we are facing severe problems with finding jobs and somewhere decent to live."

Her complaints about government neglect and the problems of adjusting to life



At bay: Palestinian women yesterday trying to stop an Israeli policeman from arresting one of them at an east Jerusalem protest rally. Six women out of about 50 at the rally were held.

in a new home can be heard in similarly squalid settings the length and breadth of Israel, from the desert development city of Beersheba in the south to the Galilean towns of Carmel and Naza-

reth in the north. Unemployment, aiready at a record level of more than 10 per cent, is rising

steadily, more than half a million Israelis are below the poverty line, and badly needed American financial assistance, in the form of \$10 billion (\$5.55 billion) in loan guarantees, has been delayed for nearly a year because of Israel's expansion of its Jewish settlements

in the occupied territories.

"We will probably have to live in this caravan for four or five years, and yet the government spends its monev in areas where no one

wants to live," Yelena said. While the complaints of the new immigrants have become a routine part of Israeli life, suddenly Yelena and other members of Israel's disgruntled underclass are discovering that politicians are ready to listen. particularly since elections are planned for June 23. when the 250,000 first-time Soviet immigrant voters could decide as many as ten Knesset seats, enough to make or break the future Israeli government.

Why are there so many repeats on TV?



Every year we see appeal after appeal on behalf of the Third World. Why is this?

Is it because there are more disasters in

No. Earthquakes, floods, hurricanes and droughts happen throughout the world. But in the developed countries, life quickly returns

In the Third World, on the other hand, disasters are compounded by poverty, with desperate consequences.

For example, last year in Bangladesh, a cyclone killed over 50,000 people. This was largely because families were forced to live on land prone to flooding because they were too poor to live anywhere safer.

Turning back to the original question, perhaps then there are more appeals because there are more wars?

There are wars all around the globe, but it is in the poorest countries that they have the most catastrophic consequences. For example, in Ethiopia, the war drove people from their once fertile farms, causing food

shortages and widescale starvation.

Here's another reason that's often given for the Third World's troubles: they don't know how to run their countries.

But the fact is, governments everywhere are fallible. However, the Third World pays much more dearly for its mistakes.

Look at the Third World Debt - a mistake made jointly by the countries that did the lending and those that did the borrowing. No one gains, but the poor lose more than most.

For example, in 1989 in Sudan, hundreds of thousands of people starved to death. Yet at the same time, the Sudanese government gave \$97,000,000 to the West in debt repayments.

By now it should be clear that the Third World's agonies won't go away as long as the underlying poverty acts as an amplifier for problems like disasters, war and economic

This is why at Christian Aid we work to tackle the root causes of poverty, as well as relieving the suffering it causes.

It is why we work to strengthen the hand of the poor in the long term, through education, usable technology, and land reform. It is why we believe in debt relief and fairer trading conditions. And it is why we value, not just your financial dontribution, but also

We have produced a leaflet about Third World poverty and the ways in which you can help relieve it. Please send for it.

Together we can help to stop Third World history from repeating itself.

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Refugees threaten Kenya

TENS of thousands of refugees from the civil war in Somalia have fied to Kenya. threatening the country's sta-bility and putting a severe strain on already depleted food stocks, the United Nations said yesterday.

Silvester Awaye, representative of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees in Nairobi, said the number of Somali refugees in Kenya had risen from 15,000 to 90,000 since the civil war restarted last November. Every day 300 people, mostly children, were dying in the Liboi camp on the Kenya-Somali border, he said.

Many of the Somalis arriv ing in Kenya were heavily armed, and although the Kenyan army had attempted Awuye said that shooting could be heard every night in the camps. Two days ago a five-day-old child was killed by a stray builet in Liboi and last week a Somali aid worker was shot by robbers in Ifo, the main UN camp, about 60

miles west of the frontier. Kenya aiready faces a severe food shortage after drought in the east and north of the country, poor harvests, and bad management of the national cereals and produce board, which this week annouced that it would have to import 1.1 million tonnes of maize by the end of March.

The World Food Pronumber of Somali refugees in Kenya will have swelled to 140,000 within two months. At present they are arriving at a rate of 1,000 a day.



Egyptians question 'spy pair'

Cairo: Egyptian security offi-cials claimed yesterday that two Israeli Arabs detained on suspicion of spying for Israel had tried to cultivate a senior Egyptian military officer who alerted the authorities (Christopher Walker writes). The two, a man aged 41

and his language student daughter, were still being interrogated yesterday awaiting formal charges. Their arrest in Cairo on Monday poses a serious threat to Israeli-Egyptian relations. The semi-official Egyptian press said both had visited Egypt a number of times on tourist visas.

City cut off

Algiers: New clashes were reported between security forces and Muslim fundamentalists in Batna, where three days of fighting have claimed II lives. The eastern Algerian city of 200,000 people was cut off from the rest of the country. (AP)

Camp toll rises

Hong Kong: Police searching a gutted hut for clues after Tuesday's arson attack at a Hong Kong camp for Vietnamese boat people found the body of a child, taking the death toil to 22. A group of 92 Vietnamese were charged with rioting. (Reuter)

Voters clash

Dhaka: At least 25 people were killed in Bangladesh in clashes between rival groups which wrecked voting in some 300 constituencies during the fortnight of mayoral elections. More than 1,500 people were arrested for causing unrest and vote-rigging.

Haiti reward

Port-au-Prince: Brigadier-General Raoul Cedras, aged 42, who led the September 30 coup that ousted President Aristide, was promoted to lieutenant-general. The general emphasised the need to "preserve independence at any price". (AFP)

Rescue riddle for a crumbling Sphinx

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN CAIRO

A JUDICIAL investigation concluded yesterday that the fail of a 660lb slab of stone from the right shoulder of the battered Sphinx in February 1988 was the work of nature and not of man.

The Egyptian committee's long awaited report exonerated the late Dr Ahmed Kadri. He was dismissed from his post as chief of the Egyptian antiquities organisation for allegedly causing the damage by permitting shod-dy restoration work on the 4.600-year-old statue which guards the pyramids at Giza. The committee of archaeological experts and university professors which carried out

the investigation was established after an American Egyptologist made a formal complaint to the police about the fall, the most serious disaster to happen to the statue for many years.

The finding took into account blame placed by experis on a range of factors for the accelerating deteriora-

tion of the enigmatic creature which has, according to Dr Sayid Tawfik, Dr Kadri's successor, disintegrated more in the past 50 years than in all its previous centuries combined

These include the effect of atmospheric and under-ground pollutants from overpopulated Cairo and vibrations from work in nearby quarries. "Scholars from Egypt and around the world have given us good advice."
Dr Tawfik said, "but nobody
has been able to come up with a sure way to save our wonderful Sphinz.

in a new attempt to save the statue, Farouk Hosni, the culture minister, has convened a conference in Cairo this month of the world's leading experts on the Sphinx It will include scientists from America, France. Italy, Germany, Sweden, Austria, Switzerland and Canada who will be asked to suggest ways of saving the country's most famous face.

Madrid bomb blast heightens fears of Olympic terror

FROM FRANK SMITH IN MADRID

FOUR soldiers and a civilian died when a car bomb exploded in the heart of Madrid yesterday, increasing fears that Eta, the Basque separatist organisation, is determined to mar this year's Olympic Games. The morning rush-hour blast also wounded six people, one of

them seriously.

The soldiers killed — three officers and their driver — were in a van which was passing when the bomb exploded just outside an army building, the Captaincy-General of Madrid. The fifth victim was a civil servant who worked for the army.

The bomb was a 90lb shrapnel-packed device. By



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question

spy pair

González: will not bow to "bloody blackmail"

nightfall, no organisation had admitted planting it, but the assumption is that it was Eta's work. The blast was the first terrorist incident in Madrid this year. Last month, Eta gummen murdered five people in attacks in Barcelona, Bilbao and Valencia.

The explosion has intensified fears not only for the Olympics in Barcelona but for two other international events in Spain this year: the Expo '92 World Fair in Seville and Madrid's period as European city of culture. Earlier this week, the mayors of the three cities were called to the capital to meet José Luis Corcuera, the interior minister, to discuss the security

problems posed by terrorism.

The defence ministry has already detailed members of the armed forces to co-operate with the police during the Olympics and Expo '92. But, as Pasqual Maragall, the mayor of Barcelona, admitted yesterday, the big security problem remains the five-month run-in to the sames

month run-up to the games. Felipe González, the prime minister; called a press conference yesterday soon after the explosion to announce that he was asking the attorney-general to investigate whether apologists for Eta should be allowed to continue with inpunity to defend the

organisation's violent independence campaign. He clearly had in mind the political party called Herri Batasuna, a small group in the Basque country which sympathises with Eta'a aims. There has been talk in re-

cent days of proscribing the organisation, whose leaders frequently feature on television and radio and in the press to defend Eta's actions. Señor González said it was intolerable that "so-called political leaders who are no more than shameful servants of terrorist mafias should continue to issue threats against the state with apparent inpunity".

Yesterday's attack also comes amid rumours that Eta may have been planning temporarily to suspend its violent activities in an attempt to persuade the Madrid government to negotiate with it. Señor González made it clear that there would be no political deals with terrorists. His government, he said, would not bow to this "bloody blackmail".



Fire brigade: workers making the final preparations yesterday for the Olympic torch at Albertville, France, which will be lit tomorrow at the start of the 16th winter Games. In a break with tradition, the flame will not been lit directly. Instead, a runner will

climb 80 steps and use the Olympic torch, lit in Greece, to start a ball of fire burning along a cable up to the huge bowl 100ft above the ground. Organisers were due to announce yesterday who will light the flame. It was anticipated that the honour would go

to Nathalie Bouvier, the French skier.
Bouvier, aged 22, the downhill silvermedal winner at last year's world
championships in Austria, would
have been one of France's main medal
hopes but has been unable to compete
since she broke both legs a year ago.

Chores keep the hausfrau happy

FROM PATRICK MOSER

IN GERMANY, a country often thought to be in the front line of the battle for equality of the sexes, the kitchen is still a woman's place — and not many German women are bothered about it. That at least is the impression given by a survey presented yesterday by Angela Merkel, Bonn's women's affairs minister.

Cleaning the house is also still considered by many to be a woman's job, if the survey is to be believed: 77 per cent of women in western Germany clean the home without help from the man in the house, and 78 per cent do the cooking without any help from their male partner. The figures for eastern Germany are 70 per cent and 74 per cent respectively.

"Nine per cent of women in the west [of Germany] and 7 per cent in the east believe the man should do more in the house," the IPOS research institute said in the study commissioned by the ministry. Yet 60 per cent of the 2,633 Germans interviewed believe more should be done for equality.

Croatia gives way over peace force

FROM JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK AND TIM JUDAH IN BELGRADE

CROATIA yesterday dropped its objections to the deployment of United Nations peacekeepers in the former Yugoslav republic, leaving only one rebel Serb leader blocking the implementation of the plan.

Franjo Tudiman, Croatia's president, informed the UN Security Council that he was now ready to accept the deployment of 10,000 UN peacekeepers in the three Serb enclaves in Croatia. Diplomats here said that Milan Babic, the leader of the Serb enclave of Krajina, was the only remaining opponent of the UN "blue beres". Several senior Western envoys expressed hope that Mr Babic could be brought into line by pressure from the Serb-dominated rump feder-

al presidency in Belgrade.
Dr Tudjman had initially accepted the UN proposal to create UN-protected areas in Krajina and eastern and western Slavonia, where the majority of Croatia's 600,000 Serbs live. But when member states of the European Community recognised Croatia last month, he insisted that the Zagreb government retain control over local government and the police in any UN-parmilled areas.

UN-parrolled areas.
His change of policy was an embarrassment to Germany,

Harrien

5 5× /

which led the move to recognise Croatia, and he came under intense German pressure to revert to his original stance. He did so in a letter to the security council less than an hour before it was to meet to discuss a draft resolution calling on both sides to accept the UN peacekeeping plan

unconditionally.

In an attempt to head off the violent disintegration of Bosnia-Herzegovina, the European Community is to broker talks next week in Sarajevo, the republic's capital. The move was annoused yesterday after Lord Carrington, the chairman of the EC peace conference on Yugoslavia, held talks in Sarajevo on the second day of his trip to the country.

trip to the country.

Despite the bitter invective traded between the leaders of the three groups that make up Bosnia — Croats, Serband Muslims — they have never stopped talking. The leader of the main Serb party. Radovan Karadzic, said: "Carrington said 'maybe you could speed up talks if they were supervised by the EC." It was not clear yesterday if Lord Carrington, already known to be exasperated by the practical collapse of the existing EC peace talks, would chair the Bosnian conference himself.

Dogs of war are cheated of prey

FROM JOHN PHILLIPS IN ZAGREB

The outbreak of peace in Yugoslavia could leave hundreds of foreign mercenaries, most of whom threw in their lot with Croatia, out of a job. Scores of disgruntled soldiers of fortune, evidently feeling they are not getting enough fighting, have begun drifting away

soldiers of fortune, evidently feeling they are not getting enough fighting, have begun drifting away from the static front lines at the Slavonian towns of Osijek and Vinkovci since Yugoslavia's longest lasting ceasefire came into effect on January 3.

Some volunteers be-

lieve the Zagreb authorities would not be unhappy to see the often unpredictable foreign warriors depart, now that the hastily formed Croatian army has achieved a modicum of organisation. "I don't think it will even be thanks and good-

even be 'thanks and goodbye'," said Ken from Portsmouth gloomily over gin and tonic at Zagreb's Esplanade hotel, a favourite haunt of mercenaries. "Just 'goodbye', and the Croats did it on their own. I don't think I will be staying much longer."

ing much longer."

One group of Britons was sent on enforced leave from Vinkovci last week to languish at the Baronga barracks in Zagreb. In the beer cellar there are few foreigners 20 or 30 let us say." To ka Jelic, an Anstralia who is the new public lations officer for the lations officer fo

under Osijek's main square, "Captain Carl" from Liverpool, second-in-command of the "First International Brigade" grouping soldiers from a dozen nationalities rested his sub-machinegun by a dimly lit table and said another group of Britons left last week. "They couldn't see the point of staying during the ceasefire." He said morale is good among five Englishmen in the International Brigade.

Firm estimates of the number of foreigners left are hard to come by. Allan Hetherington-Clebberley, a genial Australian who said he had been appointed "commander international Zagreb," claimed English-speaking soldiers alone still number as many as 500.

Brigadier Karlo Gorinsek, commander of the Croatian first operational zone, covering 200 miles of front including Osijek and Vinkovel, said: "In our operational zone there are few foreigners — 20 or 30 let us say." Tonka Jelic, an Anstralian who is the new public relations officer for the International Brigade, said

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Russia gives freedom to last political prisoners

FROM BRUCE CLARK IN MOSCOW

IN A symbolic end to one of the grimmest chapters in 20th-century history, ten people regarded by the authorities as the last political prisoners in Russia will today walk free from the notorious Perm 35 forced labour camp.

Their release from a prison well known for its freezing isolation cells and starvation diet is intended to give substance to President Yeltsin's claim before the United Nations last week that "in free Russia there are no political prisoners". The freeing of the ten will also underpin Mr Yeltsin's contention that his country, which in its Soviet incarnation used to react with fury at Western criticism of its human rights record, now positively welcomed monitor-ing by foreign governments and lobby groups.
In its zeal to stamp out an

institution that won the Soviet Union the opprobrium of the world, the Russian authorities may even have interpreted the concept of "pris-oner of conscience" even more broadly than many Western country. As of a year ago, the Soviet authorities were able to claim that they had released from Perm all prisoners convicted under the notorious article 70 of the penal code, which proscribes "agitation and propaganda against the state". But human rights groups countered that the prison still contained about a dozen inmates who were convicted of crimes such as selling military secrets or even manslaughter carried out in the course of politically inspired acts, such as illegal crossing of the

No less an authority than Oleg Kalugin, the former KGB's counter-intelligence chief, contended this week that "Russia is perhaps the freest country in the world", given that "there are no controls on the media, no restrictions on human rights and no

political prisoners". In a debate in the Russian parlia-ment this week, much was made of the fact that the republic's new security minis-- the successor to the try — the successor to the KGB — will have no department whose specific purpose is to monitor and harass ideo-

logical and religious dissent. But many a Russian liberal fears that the republic's current zeal to meet the highest international standards on human rights represents only. an isolated moment in the country's history as it swings from the communist form of totalitarianism to a neo-fascist variety. Already the human rights record of several of Russia's partners in the commonwealth - notably Uzbekistan and Azerbaijan has prompted acute concern among international rights campaigners.

Conservative diehards, for their part, have launched a campaign for the release of a dozen elderly men they call "political prisoners" - the generals and the party bureaucrats who mounted the August coup against Mikhail Gorbachev.

Izvestia sent a team of re-porters to visit the conspirators in the jail on the outskirts of Moscow and last night published photographs of them, as well as a shot of the former Soviet prime minister, Valentin Pavlov, looking hardly less portly than before. Vasili Starodubtsev, the hardline farmers' leader who was member of the ill-fated eight-man junta, told Izvestia's correspondents: "I have no complaints, apart from the fact that I am

As well as wading through dozens of volumes of evidence against them accumulated by the Russian public prosecutor, Mr Starodubtsev said that he fretted about the "total collapse and catastrophe" that was now facing the country's agriculture.

Yeltsin fears fascist upsurge

FROM PHILIP JACOBSON

PRESIDENT Yelisin yesterday gave his most vivid warning yet of the dangers facing Russia's fledgeling democra-cy if the West does not fully back his reform programme.

He told a reception in the town hall to mark his state visit to France that without such support "a dictatorship will emerge". Everything his government had achieved would be threatened by opponents on the extreme right.

"I have faith in the reforms, which are irreversible," he said. "But should they fail, I can already feel the breath on our neck of those who wear the black and the brown shirts." Faced with that. Mr Yeltsin insisted, "we have the right to count on the international community for help". Evidently anxious to bolster

his case in France, already the

second biggest lender to the Commonwealth of Indepen-dent States. Mr Yeltsin said that Russia was ready to make big reductions in its strategic nuclear arsenal. Of France's refusal to cut back on its own nuclear forces, he said: "We respect that position ... we hope that once the reduction and elimination of nuclear weapons is underway in Russia. France will in turn refrain from augmenting such armaments."



Triumphal exit: Mr Yeltsin is ushered past a Republican Guard after a ceremony at the Arc de Triomphe

The Russian leader's discussions with President Mitterrand on Wednesday were apparently also dominated by the issue of nuclear disarmament. An Elysée Palace adviser said afterwards that there had been a "convergence of views on the notion of defence sufficiency, of minimal deterrents". This seemed to suggest that Mr Yeltsin prudently did not repeat the view he expressed before leaving Moscow that France must reduce its nuclear capacity in response to disarmament by the superpowers.

Mr Yeltsin responded to the warmth of his welcome in France, and to the encouraging news that Russia will get the lion's share of some £415 million in French credits previously allocated to the Soviet Union, by predicting "an entirely new relationship between our two states for many

years to come". For their part, French officials were still doing their best to bury unhappy memories of the Elysée's snub of Mr Yelsin on a previous visit to Paris during the Gorbachev

were yesterday spreading praise of the Russian leader's direct and open style of doing business. Yesterday's official

programme even provided for Mr Yeltsin and his wife Naina to meet an admittedly carefully selected assortment of Russians who had chosen exile in Paris in preference to continuing to live under

Kiev lets Crimea have voice

Kiev: Ukraine yesterday granted residents of Crimea the right to take part in decisions about the future of their autonomous peninsula, including division of property

A high-level delegation from Kiev signed a joint state-ment on division of powers with Crimean authorities. It also provided for the creation of a free economic zone in the region. (Reuter)

Port falls

Moscow: Georgia's military council said its troops have captured the port of Sukhumi, the last stronghold loyal to Zviad Gamsakhurdia, the ousted president, virtually ending weeks of bloody resistance. It was occupied without a shot. (Reuter)

US pledges aid

Riga: Vice-President Quayle, visiting Estonia and Latvia, pledged extra American aid of \$18 million (£10 million) for the three Baltic states and endorsed swift withdrawal of Russian troops from their territories. He will be in Lithuania today. (Reuter)

Poverty bites

Moscow: Russia's rush towards a market economy has pushed 95 per cent of Mos-cow's residents below the poverty line. Yuri Luzhkov. the city's deputy mayor, said in the latest in a series of gloomy reports on shortages and high prices. (AP)

Siberian town shivers in dark

While the federation awaits energy cuts, in one Siberian city they have already happened, Peter Conradi writes from Khabarovsk

When Lyudmila Golovina came Lyudmila home with her new baby from maternity hospital this winter, she found there was no central heating, hot water or gas in her block of flats.

Like tens of others who lived in the building, she responded by plugging in a portable heater: it blew the fuses, plunging the whole building into dark-ness as well. It then took several days before all the "It has been the same

story all over the city," said her father, Valeri, a journalist on a local news-paper. "They simply did not prepare for the cold."
It has been a hard winter for Khabarovsk, an indus-trial city near the Chinese border, where the temperature regularly plunges to 25C and a bitter wind blows almost continuous ly across the frozen Amur river. While the rest of Russia waits for the oil to run out, Khabarovsk's 600,000 people can be forgiven for thinking that they have been through it all already.
Since November, one

by one, whole sections of the city have been blacked out and deprived of energy. Several thousand people had to see in the new year by candlelight.

For the time being at least, the situation appears to have stabilised. Some 200 million roubles (£20 million at official tourist rates) of special aid were promised and, in typical Russian fashion, the appearance of the bosses from the faraway capital generated the superhuman effort that was necessary to

work miracles. The weather, too, has warmed slightly, edging a few degrees up towards freezing point. Even so, it will be well into April before the snow eventually melts across Russia's far east, and another icy burst could prove cent of it along the way.



disastrous. At least in their harshness, this winter's troubles appear to have been unique to Khabarovsk. Other cities in the region have suffered temporary breakdowns both this year and last,

According to the locals, the most plausible explanation is that nobody got around to carrying out the annual prophylactic repairs that every piece of Soviet-made machinery requires.

But it is also a symptom of a broader energy problem affecting much of the former Soviet Union. The anti-nuclear sentiment provoked by the accident at the Chernobyl nuclear plant in 1986 blew a hole in the country's energy pro-gramme by forcing the closure of several existing plants and the cancellation of new ones. Oil output, meanwhile, has been

ımmeting. The problems are com-pounded by the highly centralised heating and hot water system which keeps most Russian cities going through the winter. In theory, it is an admirable communal service, banishing all fears of hypothermia and providing cheap, plentiful energy for all.

In practice, it is a highly inefficient and complex system which requires almost continuous care and attention. Necessarily, by pumping heat over large distances in sub-zero tem-peratures in unlagged pipes, it also ends up losing as much as 50 per



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'Stupid Tyson was butt of joke'

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN INDIANAPOLIS

DESIREE Washington, the woman who accused Mike Tyson of rape, joked about the boxer's money and stu-pidity after he asked her out for the evening, a rival beauty contestant told the court yes-

in defence testimony aimed at countering the saintly por-trait of Ms Washington painted by the prosecution, Marilyn Whittingden said she had bumped into the accuser in the bathroom just after Tyson had visited the contestants in the Miss Black America beauty pageant in Indianapolis last July. "She told me she had met Tyson and was going to go out with him. I said, 'Are you really going to? She said: 'Of course I'm going. He's Mike Tyson he's got a lot of money and he's dumb. You saw what Robin Givens got out of him."

Robin Givens was the actress to whom Tyson was briefly married while he was world heavyweight champion. She won more than \$10 million from him after suing for divorce on the ground of physical cruelty.

Poventie.

Last week. Ms Washington, a university student and Sunday school teacher, that she had made any such Attempt to outflank Democrats

Health care for all pledged by Bush

Gephard: called the

plan "totally deficient"

lation enacted in the

foreseeable future, but this was an exercise in political

Polls show health care and

its exorbitant costs to be one

of the most potent electoral

issues this year. It is one on

which the Democrats have so

far made all the running.

proposing that employers

would be taxed to finance a

national insurance scheme if

they did not buy private

health insurance for their

workers. One poll said that

Americans trust the Demo-

crats rather than Mr Bush on

posturing to begin with.

PRESIDENT Bush yester day moved to negate one of the Democrats' strongest suits in the forthcoming presidential election by unveiling a plan that he pledged would give all Americans access to 'the world's best health care". He offered a system of

vouchers and tax credits to give health insurance to the 35 million Americans who presently cannot afford it, and to alleviate the exploding costs of insurance for middleincome families.

The plan, vehemently denounced by the Democrats, would cost \$100 billion (£55.2 billion), as it was implemented over the next five years, and \$35 billion a year thereafter, but with America's budget deficit already at record levels Mr Bush ducked the question of how it would be paid for.

At the last moment he had deleted proposals to raise funds by taxing the employerpaid benefits of highly paid workers and deeply cutting the Medicare programme for the elderly. These steps were considered politically too dangerous in an election year. Mr Bush instead offered Congress 38 pages of financ-

the issue, by a 60 per cent to ing options, leaving them to make the tough decisions. In doing so, he virtually ensur-Mr Bush had to come up. ing that there will be no legiswith some counter-proposal,

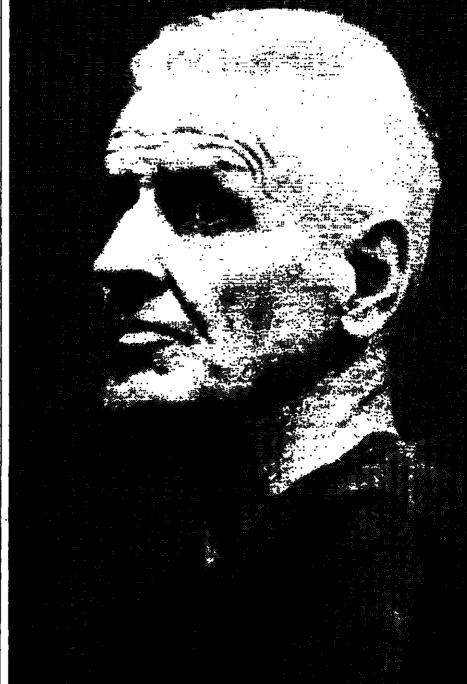
lest he appeared indifferent but one clearly based on a market-driven philosophy. Setting the tone for the coming campaign, he said in Cleveland, Ohio: "My plan will preserve what works, and reform what doesn't." The Democrats' proposals were "a prescription for disaster

a back-door route to nationalised health care" that would create a hugely expensive new bureacracy no one

When you get right down to it, there are two fundamental health care choices," said Mr Bush, who was flying on to the West Coast to promote his plan. "We can adopt a system that's been a proven failure all over the world nationalised health care. Or we can reform our present system, which has its faults, certainly, but which can also provide the highest-quality care on Earth."

Richard Gephardt, the House majority leader, called it "totally deficient" and a "non-plan" that "will put more money into the pockets of insurance companies and doctors, but will do nothing to make health coverage affordable or ensure Americans have access to quality care". The plan envisages that American families with annual incomes of up to \$80,000 can receive up to \$3,750 a year, through tax credits, tax deductions or vouchers to pay for health care. Mr Bush also called for new limits on medical malpractice lawsuit

America spent \$27.1 billion on health care in 1960, a figure that has now soared to \$738 billion, more than any other industrial country.



Death charges: Dr Jack Kevorkian, who advoctated doctor-assisted suicide for the seriously ill, listening to his indictment in Oakland County circuit court, Pontiac, Michigan. Dr Kevorkian was arrested this week in connection with the deaths of two seriously ill women who used the "suicide

machine" invented by him. A grand jury indicted him on Monday on two counts of murder and one count of delivery of a controlled substance, the Oakland prosecutor said. Dr Kevorkian's lawyer said the ending of the suffering of two chronically ill women was an act of humanity.

Eichmann file

'not in archive'

FROM ED McCullough in buenos aires

A NAZI hunter who studied of Death" at Auschwitz, and

seven Argentine government on Martin Bormann, Hitler's

deputy. The others dealt with

Nazis such as Walter

Kutschmann and Edouard

Roschmann, now dead; and Josef Schwammberger, aged

79, extradited to Germany in

1990 and on trial in Stuttgart

for his alleged role in the deaths of Jews in forced lab-

But on the man who drew up plans to exterminate the

Jews of Europe, and who was

kidnapped here in 1960 by

Israeli agents, tried, convict-

ed, hanged and cremated -

nothing. "I cannot accept that it is an oversight," Mr

Samuels said. (AP)

our camps.

files daring back decades said

that he was most struck by

"Where is the Eichmann

file?" Shimon Samuels, of the

Simon Wiesenthal Centre for

Holocaust Studies, said on

Wednesday. "The file that

should have been the thickest

of all is not there."
On Monday, President
Menem ordered the national

archives to collect informa-

tion on Nazis who fled here

after the war. Government

agencies were given 30 days

to comply. The seven federal police files included two each

on Josef Mengele, the "Angel

what was not there.

AEPRE **Peaceful** battle begins The presidents of Russia and South Africa, Boris Yeltsin, and F.W. de Klerk, and antiapartheid leader Nelson Mandela are among nomi-nees for the 1992 Nobel Peace Prize, it was reported in Oslo. "So far we've received 105 nominations for 83 individuals and 22 organ-isations." Geir Lundestad, head of the Nobel Institute, said. The winner will be announced in October.

Jean-Pierre Rampal, whose lyrical flute-playing has capti-vated the world, said before a 70th birthday celebration at the Lincoln Centre, New York: "I cannot understand why America is so violent." Of the ubiquitous personal ste-reo, he added: "We are arriving to (sic) a generation of deaf people. It's a catastrophe."

A horse-drawn funeral car-riage followed by hundreds of fans and dozens of musicians carried the body of Willie Dixon through the South Side streets of Chicago to the sounds of music he made famous. Dixon died in California last week at the age of 76. Bands stood on corners along a route down Muddy Waters Drive and past the Checker Board Lounge where Dixon was a fixture for years.

Former French prime minister Michel Rocard has been bonoured by Australia for his work to protect the Antarctic. Rocard was appointed an honourary Companion of the Order of Australia, the nation's highest honour, which he received for the central role he played in delivering French government support to Australia's attempt to ban mining in the Antarctic.

Iran plans to make a documentary film on the political life of its revolutionary leader Ayatollah Khomeini, who died in 1989, said Muham-mad Ali Ansari, who added that Khomeini's shrine, south of Tehran, would be expanded into a "touristic and science-oriented" complex.

A Lebanese daily newspaper, ad-Diyar, said police had stopped it publishing an in-terview with rebel Christian general, Michel Aoun. who is now living in exile in France. Police listened to a taped recording of the interview then barred publication.

A parchment scroll offering the freedom of Nottingham Castle and Sherwood Forest to Kevin Costner, of Holly-woods's Robin Hood, Prince of Thieves, was signed by the Sheriff of Nottingham and the county council chairman.

Monkeys drive police nuts

FROM JOANNA PITMAN IN TOKYO

LEANING forward gin gerly over his holstered pistol, Police Sergeant To-da played mother to a group of children, pouring tea from a pink Don-ald Duck pot and handing round butterfly cakes.

But this was no infantschool tea-party. Sergeant Toda, aged 32, is the be-nevolent face of the law in Japan. He is the local bobby in Itsukaichi, a mountain commu nity 75 miles west of To-kyo. His home doubles as the police station and on most afternoons locals drop in for tea and a

gossip.
One of 235 policemen in the Tokyo metropolitan area who operate from their homes, Sergeant Toda is responsible for 600 households spread over 50 square miles. That he can single-handedly cover his beat and still host tea parties says much about the local crime rate.

The scourge of his pro-fessional life is not murder or mugging, but monkeys. "Last week a wild monkey came down from the mountains and stole some carrots. I took details of the goods and suspect, but there is not much I can do," he said. On a recent Saturday

evening he was called out at 11.30 to deal with a distraught mother whose daughter, aged 25, had stayed out past her llpm curfew. The previous day he had spent the morning coaxing a cat down from a persimmon tree and the afternoon mediating in a transport is a bicycle.

trivial quarrel between the futon-maker and the

sake brewer. Sergeant Toda is a guntoting nanny on Japan's national payroll; his charges, the inhabitants of Itsukaichi. In all his 13 years as a policeman, he has not once had the chance to use his pistol or his truncheon, for his beat is no more hazardous

The most serious incident he can recall was the theft of £160 in 1987. "I got a telephone call about robbery and rushed

than that in Trumpton.



round to the house, but the thief had fled the scene. I took fingerprints and I am still investigat-

ing the case, but it looks as if he got away." Were Sergeant Toda to recognise his chief suspect driving past the po-lice station tomorrow, he would not have much chance of arresting him, since his chief mode of



Army coup enquiry clears politicians

FROM TONY BIANCHI IN CARACAS

THE Venezuelan government yesterday ruled out the participation of political factions and civilian movements in Tuesday's coup attempt by a group of army officers that belong to a right-wing na-tionalistic clan. Virgilio Abila Vivas, the interior minister, said investigators have found no evidence of any political or civilian group being implicated in the aborted coup.

General Fernando Ochoa Antich, the defence minister, meanwhile, insisted that only 14 military officials were killed and 57 injured from both sides, denying reports that gave the death toll as 300. However, Caracas pol- ranks, and cashiered.

ice sources said that the final toll, which could not yet be confirmed, was likely to climb to 60.

The military command that remained loyal to President Perez began to question captured officers and soldiers who made up the 1,600-man force that tried to assassinate the head of state and seize power. A high military court official said most of the rebel soldiers were believed to have been forced to fight and would probably be discharged without being sentenced. Rebel leaders could receive up to 25 years' imprisonment, be stripped of their



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Nintendo peril hits Hollywood

Charles Bremner on American fears of growing Japanese cultural power

Times: "Hollywood Drops Film, Bowing to the Sumos". The burly

wrestlers had extinguished a Sony-

Columbia film called Hell Camp,

which was to have been directed

by Milos Forman, the director of

One Flew over the Cuckoo's Nest

and Amadeus. Sony and all the

Americans in the \$25 million

project are denying that it was cancelled because it painted an

unflattering portrait of Japan's most popular sport. Maybe so,

mused the Times, but why did a

group of Hollywood's most sea-

soned moguls bow to the objec-

tions of a foreign sports federa-

tion? The Sumo episode reminded many of last year's affair over Mr

Baseball, a film about the comic

adventurers of an American player

in Japan, which was purged of anti-Japanese jokes after Matsu-

shita took over Universal Studios. A dark Japanese hand has been discerned behind revisions of a likely blockbuster novel published

this week: Rising Sun by Michael Crichton. This time Mr Crichton

is not proposing planetary anni-hilation from outer

space, as he did in

The Andromeda

Strain, nor under

the hooves of stampeding dino-

saurs, as he did in Jurassic Park. His

alien menace of

1992 bows and

smiles a lot and

wears a dark suit.

Knopf took the

rare step of recall-

ing advance copies from reviewers and

replacing them with a "corrected"

version, which soft-

ened some of Mr

Crichton's harsher

observations about Japan. There

was absolutely no connection, insisted the author, with the fact that Matsushita-Universal had

just agreed to finance a Steven

Set in Los Angeles, the novel opens with the murder of a blonde

who has been having sex with a

sleazy Japanese tycoon on a conference table during the opening of the new headquarters of the Nakamoto Corporation. Osten-

sibly a whodunnit, the book is

really a seminar on the Japanese

psyche and its influence in Amer-

ica. Half of Los Angeles, from the police to the universities and press.

has been bought by Nakamoto. As

the hero detective puts it: "Who-ever pays for an institution con-trols it. If the Japanese are willing

to put up the money - and if the

American government and Ameri-

can industry aren't — then the Japanese will control."

Some of the reviewers are accus-

ing Mr Crichton of basic Japan-

bashing, a sport which has stood

in for baseball during this winter season, but the author and some

fairly unchauvinist politicians are

treating the book as an intel-

ligent "wake-up call" which sup-

ports the argument of those who

believe that America, as an open,

culturally diverse country, must

learn to live with Japanese power.

It can do this, they say, not by fleeing into protectionism and

paranoia, but by strengthening

native institutions and, if nec-

essary, by borrowing some un-

American models - such as a

suddenly struck me that Patric's

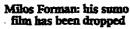
national industrial policy.

Spielberg film of Jurassic Park.

last year,

cartoon elicited a few bitter chuckles over American breakfast tables the other day, after Tokyo politicians delivered their latest shower of insults to Yankee pride. It featured a newsreader reporting that the Japanese had taken over motherhood, baseball and apple-pie, the three sacred symbols of America. Over the past week, as the prime minister, Kichi Myazawa, has aired his own thoughts on American sloth, life has caught up with the cartoon and added a sadistic twist. A consortium led by the Nintendo company wants to take over the Mariners, the beloved baseball team of Seattle, and the town is begging the baseball authority to let them do so, because if the \$100 million deal fails, they will go to Florida. Even Tom Foley, the congressional speaker and Washington state native, has joined the drive to persuade Fay Vincent, the national baseball commissioner, to rescind the rule which bars any foreigners but Canadians from

owning teams. Beyond the northern Pacific rim, an area which long ago learned to trade and live with the Japanese, the notion of Nintendo saving the Mariners has been greeted with resignation and mourning. Is nothing sacred, ask talkshow hosts and commentators? "First they took our cars, now its base-ball," said a barman in Indianapo-



lis, a good vantage

point for gauging the anguish middle America is feeling over the triumph of the new evil empire, a force which has taken on the demonic image the

Russkies used to enjoy.

A month after President Bush's tragi-comic trade trip to Tokyo, it seems to many Americans that the baseball episode is fresh evidence that the dreaded Japanese march on American culture has begun. Weren't we all naïve, goes the argument, to think that we could sell Hollywood, record companies and all those hotels, golf-courses and landmarks to the Japanese and then believe all their promises. like those made by Sony to Columbia Pictures, that they would "stay out of the creative process".

There has been no shortage of ammunition in recent days for those who see the imminent replacement of Big Macs by Big Tekamaki. On Monday, Michael Jackson was coaxed back onto planet earth to announce that he would undertake a world tour. Since everyone knows Mr Jackson is terrified of performing outside a studio these days, the pop press as-sumed that Sony, with whom Mr Jackson has a billion dollar multimedia contract, was worned about his sagging fortunes and had twisted his gloved arm. It escaped no one's attention that the venue for his appearance is the art-deco splendour of the Radio City Music Hall, the jewel of that New York institution, the Rockefeller Centre, now owned by Mitsubishi.

Japanophobes had their worst fears confirmed on Wednesday with a headline in The New York

The Ashdown affair: two views on the conflict of public interest and privacy

hen the actor Gordon Kaye lay in a hospital bed recovering from severe head injuries, a journalist and a photographer from the Sunday Sport gained access to his room took pictures and conducts. room, took pictures and conducted an "interview". He sought an injunction to stop them publishing, but found the only limited remedy that the court could provide was to order that there be no publication unless the newspaper made it clear the information was obtained without Mr Kaye's consent. The Court of Appeal later confirmed that "in English law

there is no right to privacy The case of Paddy Ashdown, and the conduct of the press, again focuses attention on the limited extent to which English law protects the fundamental right to be left alone. In his statement on Wednesday, Mr Ashdown explained that he "was advised and believed that I had every right to

defend my privacy".

The law does recognise the right to privacy in some contexts. The Broadcasting Complaints Commission has powers to adjudicate

News from the gutter

infringement of privacy" in broad-cast programmes. The right of rape victims to anonymity under the Sexual Offences (Amendment) Act 1976, and the law of trespass also protects some aspects of privacy.

The law of confidence applies

when information is secret, was imparted in circumstances of confidence, and has been used in an unauthorised way. These criteria were plainly satisfied in respect of the information stolen from the offices of Mr Ashdown's solicitor, which is why Mr Ashdown was granted an injunction to restrain publication by the News of

But there are severe limits to the utility of an action for breach of confidence there are many occasions when a newspaper has information which damages personal privacy but which has not been imparted in circumstances

Everyone should have a right to be left alone, argues **David Pannick**

All three appeal judges in the Gordon Kaye case urged Parlia-ment to consider introducing a right to privacy. Lord Justice Bingham commented that "if ever a person has a right to be let alone by strangers with no public interest to pursue, it must surely be when he lies in hospital recovering from brain surgery and in no more than partial command of his faculties".

There is a very strong case for enacting a general right to privacy to bring some principle into this confused and arbitrary area of the law, Article Eight of the European

Convention on Human Rights, to which the United Kingdom is party, asserts that (subject to exceptions) "everyone has the right to respect for his private and family life, his home and his correspondence". Of course, it may not be easy to define the scope of a right to be left alone. What the public is interested in is not necessarily identical to what is in

the public interest.

The laws of other countries do define a tort of invasion of privacy. however. For the law of this country to deny a remedy for such a wrong whatever the circumstances is to confound any sense of decency and to deprive individuals of protection of a right fundamental to their integrity. The press has shown few signs of taking the last chance to display selfcontrol granted to it in 1990 by

the Calcutt Committee. What justifiably concerns oppo-

it would add to the power of the judiciary (not all of whom are known for their commitment to freedom of expression) to determine what we learn about public figures.

A solution would be for the law to recognise a right to privacy. with a remedy in damages for any breach. The judiciary would have no power to prevent the imparting of information to the public, but those newspapers which breached the right to privacy would have to compensate the victim, with exemplary damages being awarded to penalise the newspaper when there has been a flagrant abuse. Privacy law would echo libel law Such a solution would accord with the practical reality demonstrated by Mr Ashdown's case: injunc-tions are of little value in seeking to stop the flow of information. But a legal duty to respect privacy would also impose on the press an obligation to consider with more care the consequences that publication may have for its victims.

David Pannick is a practising barrister and a fellow of All Souls

Ashdown's loneliest day

The Liberal Democrat leader spoke about his future to Peter Riddell

A WEEK IN POLITICS

addy Ashdown has been bruised by the past week's pretends that it is business as usual. Talking to me yesterday in his Westminster office, he was, understandably, slightly nervous and preoccupied with the details of the affair. He smoked a cigarette, which he never does in public.

Nevertheless, he was more resilient than I can imagine many politicians being in the same circum-stances. Possibly as a legacy of his days in the services, he has remarkable self-control. Never an enthusiastic insider in the Westminster club, he can talk about politics in a detached, almost clinical way, with at times a chilling self-analysis. His language, his metaphors, are often more like those of a businessman

than a career politician.

Mr Ashdown recognises that there may be immediate political repercussions from his admission of his brief relationship with a former secretary more than fiv years ago. So far he has received strong support from parliamen-tary colleagues and from Liberal Democrats in the country. That is a reflection both of his success over the past three years and of political necessity: there is no alternative to closing ranks. When we talked, he had just returned from a consultation with party staff in Cowley Street and hearing reports from

the regions. There may be second thoughts in the next few days, and yesterday Mr Ashdown seemed braced for a short-term drop both in his own high personal popularity and his party's rating. His hope is clearly that most members of the public, as well as the political world, will treat his admission as an ordinary, and common, human failing. If there is no sign of self-pity or bitterness in Mr Ashdown's com-

ments, there is anger, over the

invasion of privacy in the use of a

stolen document. This was the such as "we are being gagged theme to which he kept returning. The issue here has become blurred by the issuing, and later lifting, of an injunction against all Fleet Street newspapers a week ago. Mr Ashdown recognises that this of-fered only a slim hope of keeping the matter secret, but it did give him time to alert his MPs and visit his Yeovil constituency on Monday. Thus he could prepare the disclosure on his own terms. However, the Ashdown camp

still believes that the injunction was fully justified, since what was being offered to the News of the World was a confidential statement stolen from his solicitor's safe. If the law cannot in practice prevent such documents becoming public - forced out by devices stories" — then there is nothing to stop the publication of other information obtained illegally, for instance through wire taps or tapes.

As an affected party who has, incidentally, opposed a privacy law, Mr Ashdown does not believe he can discuss his views in public. although close advisers such as Sir David Steel and Lord Holme of Cheltenham have sought to turn attention onto this issue. There is a lot of public, and political, sympa-

thy, for this line. These specific and legitimate complaints have fuelled the existing feverish debate about the bias of the press, dirty tricks and smears which had already been developing after the singularly mundane revelations about Neil

Kinnock's talks with Soviet diplomats. All sides tend to exaggerate the political influence of the media, and although television is by far the most common source of news, the press still matters, since

roughly three-quarters of the pub-lic also reads a daily paper. Obviously the British press disproportionately supports the Tories. More than 70 per cent of papers sold are pro-Tory, compared with 50 per cent in 1950. But of course this masks big variations in the degree to which

individual papers are partisan.

Nevertheless, Labour has a fair grievance against some of the highly tendentious tabloid coverage of the past six weeks, matched in style, if not scale, by attacks on the Tories in the Daily Mirror.

Such bias may be wrong and often nauseating, but it probably has little effect on voters. Politicians often behave as if readers take note of every word and headline. But papers are bought for many reasons other than their political stance. Most people read a paper roughly in line with their own position, but many do not In 1987, some 31 per cent of Sun readers voted Labour, while 20 per cent of buyers of the Daily Mirror similarly ignored the paper's line

and voted Tory. Some readers are blissfully ignorant of their paper's political line.

In 1987. 37 per cent of readers of The Sun did not realise it was pro-Tory. In general, the stridency of the tabloids merely reinforces existing

opinions. Academics such as Martin Harrop and William Miller believe the press has little direct influence on changes in voting behaviour when compared to the existing views of voters. The biggest impact is among those who usually pay scant attention to politics and who are therefore most susceptible to media influence. It is not surprising, perhaps, that the biggest shift to the Tories during the last

election occurred among the relatively non-political Sun and Daily Star readers. More important than what the press says during elections -- when there is anyway the offsetting effect of carefully balanced television and radio coverage and the parties' own broadcasts - is the media's longer-term impact on

opinions by the manner in which

sets the terms of the policy

debate. As I left the relative calm of Mr Ashdown's office yesterday. I noticed on television the endlessly repeated pictures of the real victims of the tabloid pressures: his wife and former secretary. However, away from the fevered atmosphere of Westminster and Fleet Street, the public seems unexcited by so-called scandals, stunts or smears. People may eagerly read all about the Ashdown affair, and even think again about him, but when they come to vote. I doubt they will be much influenced by this week's tabloid excesses.

...and moreover

n behalf of the five million Britons who are like me, I wish to apologise to the 55 million who are not. For they are on their own, this week. They will get no help from us. Whatever the depths of their distress or need, our eyes are blind and our ears deaf. Frankly, my dears, we do not give a damn. We are too busy confronting our own fears, facing situations head-on, and gen-erally looking out for good old number one. Or, rather, good old numbers one to five million. And we have been strongly advised not to support others, for the very good reason that both the Sun and Mercury are

adversely aspected by Pluto. Which brings me to an adverse aspect of astrology itself which I had not hitherto considered, probably because I had never considered astrology at all until this morning; when, thumbing through the chaos of the Radio Times in search of something else. I inadvertently fetched up against the face of Patric Walker, topping his horoscope column with the knowing smirk of one for whom fate holds no surprises. So I glanced at the Cancer entry, hoping for some such encouragement as "keep trying, you will find the programme information you are seeking any day now, this week's layout was done by a tall dark stranger who has now gone on a long sea voyage, but instead received only the advice adumbrated above. And I would have left it that, had it not fears and facing a situation know where not to come.

counsel, though apparently of-fered to me alone, had in fact been offered to that entire twelfth of the population born between June 22 and July 23. This week, five million people were going to confront their fears, face situations head-on, and ignore the pleas of others. It did not bear thinking about. All those hapless phobics sud-denly attempting to pick up spiders, climb the Monument. travel by tube, stroke a Rottie. cross a bridge, never mind the mass of the less manically fearful now doing everything from bursting in on their solicitor to see whether he'd been burgled lately to jamming Yeltsin's switchboard with stammered enquiries about which way he thought Kazakhstan's ICBMs might be point-ing because for those wishing to confront them, there is never

any shortage of fears. Nor any of situations waiting to be faced head-on: all those suddenly reeling bank-managers, all those peremptorily sacked lovers, all those summarily thumped meter-attendants! And all this while the nation's unfortunates find their chance of succour cut by a twelfth; for it is no use, this week, expecting a Cancerian Brownie to help you across the road, or a Cancerian fireman to tug your cat's head from the garden railing. Worse yet, consider the clash when two crab-people meet: simultaneously confronting his worst

head-on, one such rushes to his dentist, only to have the dentist shriek "Clear off, I am not beiping anybody this week, as soon as I have conquered my aerophobia, I am facing a situaaerophoosa, 1 am facing a situa-tion head-on. I am leaving my wife and flying off to Acapulco with my hunky bank-manager!" And that, of course, is only the

Cancerians. If Patric is to be are about to issue ultimatums to as many unreasonable employers, and five million fraught Librans are poised to concentrate on an affair of the heart. Should they, furthermore, tell these to any of the five million poor saps born between December 22 and January 20, we can expect real trouble, because for them, as you may have heard, the Sun and Mercury in Aquarius are at odds with Pluto in Scorpio, leading Patric not unnaturally to conclude that minor differences of opinion coulld well turn into major conflicts. Put another way, if tomorrow's Spurs v West Ham game attracts its likely attendance, anything up to ten thousand Sagittarians and Cap-ricornians may be confidently expected to end up knocking seven bells out of one another.

Not that this is any skin off my nose. Thanks to Pluto's adverse aspect. I am allowed not to give a fig for anyone else. So, ust in case you're one of the five million Aquarians currently seeking help with intense personal problems, at least you

A past and present help

THE Vatican is considering the creation of a patron saint for Aids sufferers. Jesuits in Britain are leading the call for St Aloysius Gonzaga to be officially designated as the protector of Aids victims. St Aloysius, a Jesuit who died in Rome in 1591 at the age of 23, contracted the bubonic plague after carrying victims of the disease on his shoulders to a Jesuit

hospital.

The pope has not yet pronounced on the matter, but the proposal has already divided Catholic opinion. The Rev Mich-ael Campbell-Johnston, superior-general of the Jesuits in Britain, admits that the suggestion has caused division.

"Aids is a serious disease and people who suffer from it need help," he says. "I think it is a very good idea. Aloysius personified piety, self-sacrifice and nonviolence. His sanctity is outstanding. He would be a spiritual inspiration." Fr Johannes Gerhartz, who is secretary of the Jesuit Order of Rome, also backs the idea. "We have patron saints forevery kind of group, so why not for those people with Aids?" But Fr Gualberto Giachi, who has written the Vatican biography of the saint, disagrees. This would end up overshadowing some of the historical values in the life of this saint - the more universal

values," he says. The issue will be decided by the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Sacraments in Rome. which, under the pope's direction. is responsible for naming patron saints. "If enough people with Aids ask for St Aloysius as a patron



 Albert Revnolds may have lots of front when it comes to singing country 8 western songs in public. but ask him his age and he turns all coy. His daughter Leonie — as well as his parliamentary sec-retary, the Fianna Fail press office and several reference books have, until now, all suggested that Ireland's new leader was born on November 3, 1935. The party's press office insists that its information comes direct from the Taioseach's own mouth. Rey nolds's birth certificate was last night published in Dublin's evening press. There it is in black and white: November 3, 1933. Who-

Return to sender

time in politics?

ever said seven days was a long

LORD SHAWCROSS was last night presented with a unique, gift to mark his 90th birthday. a leather-bound volume of scores of his letters published in The Times. The gift was presented to Shawcross, one of our most prolific correspondents, at a 200strong banquet, attended by; among others, Lord Callaghan and Sir Geoffrey Howe. The meal was held in the premises of his employers - for whom he still puts in saint, it may happen," says a an eight-hour day - J.P. Morgan. The letters reflect the applica-

tion of a powerful mind and acerbic wit to a wide range of issues, from the continued prosecution of Nazi war criminals ("I am against it") to the wisdom of BBC producers ("there seems to be no reliable evidence that they possess any hot line to the deity"). Shawcross says that he has no intention of retiring from the bank. Nor from the page opposite, please

Dickens and son?

AFTER Paddy Ashdown, Charles Dickens. The annual dinner of the Dickens Fellowship at Simpsons in the Strand tonight will hear readings from The Confessions of Charles Dickens, in which the au-thor owns up to an affair with the actress Ellen Ternan.

Alan Wans, the fellowship's respected president and Dickens scholar, has ghost-written the memoirs, recently published in

Great Expectations ...



America, and describes them as "a very factual fiction". He is supported by Claire Tomalin, whose biography of Ternan concludes she was his "lover and mistress". Peter Ackroyd, however, concludes in his monumental biog-raphy that it was "inconceivable that the relationship had been consummated". Watts says he was distressed by his own findings. There is strong evidence that there was a child. I can't defend Dickens's treatment of his wife. but I still love and honour him."

Lords and ladies

RACHAEL HEYHOE FLINT. the former captain of England's women cricket team who was re-buffed in her attempts to join the MCC last year, believes she has detected a chink in the club's solidly male armour. She has just written to Michael Melluish, the MCC's president, to congratulate him on a three-page feature about wom-en's cricket in the club's current yearbook, the first time it has carried an article on women.

"Do I detect a softening of attitudes towards women who have a great interest in cricker?" she asks. As the article records the first ever women's cricket match in 1745 – 42 years before the MCC was established – she may have a strong case. MCC secretary, Colonel John Stephenson, also held out some encouragement yesterday. This does not herald the arrival of ladies, but the question should be raised again. The MCC really isn't an old fuddy-duddy club."

• The tabloids are leaving no stone unturned in their pursuit of the Paddy Ashdown story. A team of journalists even set up camp yesterday outside the Tenerife hotel of Alison Northcliffe, Ashdown's secretary between 1986 and 1990. Northcliffe had to telephone her local Lib Dem party in Torquay to find out why she had suddenly become the centre of such attention. What the reporters did not realise until they arrived, however, was that she was on her honeymoon.

MY II



THE RIGHT TO RENT

Not until last December did the government start to panic about the property market. House prices had been falling, in the South-East at least, since 1988. Only when former Conservative voters began to tell heartbreaking stories about losing job, house, car and all they stood up in, did ministers realise that the severely depressed housing market was becoming an electoral issue. Mortgage lenders' heads were banged together to produce a repossessions rescue plan and an eightmonth stamp duty holiday was announced.

A Times survey today indicates that the rescue scheme may help as few as 5,000 out of a total of 80,000 facing repossession. And while the stamp duty holiday may lead to a cluster of sales before its expiry date in August, few experts believe that the 1 per cent saving will be enough to tempt a mass of buyers into the stagnant market. A larger fall in house prices has not managed to do so.

Does it really matter if house prices continue to fall? Politically, the property market crash could damage the Conser-vatives. The loss of the "feel-good factor" created by high house prices is continuing to hold back recovery in the economy. The impact has been most painful in Tory areas, hurting those lower middle-class voters who were important to Margaret Thatcher's electoral success. Attracted by her dream of a property-owning democracy, they bought houses (often from their council) whose value has now fallen, the interest payments on which many can no longer afford. Because the market is so sluggish, they find themselves unable to sell. And some of those who bought at the top of the boom now find their house is worth less than their mortgage.

For the economy, in the longer term, lower house prices are excellent. Britain's housing market, crucial to "labour market flexibility", has long been blighted by the inflexibility of home ownership. It is as illiquid as molasses. At the height of the boom in the 1980s, skilled workers could not move down south to fill shortages because they could not afford to live there. Now, they would be lucky to be able to sell at all.

Young people get sucked into home

The least good reason to welcome yesterday's

appointment of Barbara Mills as Director of

Public Prosecutions is that she is a woman.

Her sex will doubtless please ministers

hypersensitive to charges of male chauvin-

ism. Career-minded women will be delighted

at this confirmation that they are not

disqualified from high office. But the choice

Mills is simply the best person for the job.

The Crown Prosecution Service thought

ready had the best on the sad da

October when Sir Allan Green, Mrs Mills's

predecessor, was driven to resign. The best

had not yet proved enough. The service was

created in 1986 and the years since have not

been easy. It has been beset by the usual

problems that attend institutional reform:

administrative confusion, stretched re-

sources, poor employee morale and an

excessive workload for senior management.

Worse, the service has been haunted by the

The CPS came into being because of

dissatisfaction with the role of the police.

Before 1986, the police were both the

investigating and the prosecuting authority.

That authority inevitably saw its job as to

clear up crime and convict its perpetrators.

The methods by which this was achieved

mattered less. Too often, the prosecution

presented evidence that it knew, or should

have known, to be faulty. Juries were

browbeaten to convict. The creation of the

CPS was meant to remove this compulsion.

was sometimes worse than could have been

imagined. The Guildford Four, the Birmingham Six and the murder of PC

Keith Blakelock have all cast doubt on police

Demolition only 21 years after it was

completed brings to an end an appropriately

nasty, brutish and short life for one of

London's least loved modern buildings, the

departments of environment and transport

in Marsham Street, Westminster. Michael

Heseltine announced yesterday that he is to

spend something like £200 million replacing

the block. This is cheap at the price. Almost

any replacement would be better than the

slabs sticking three fat fingers 200 feet at the

sky from the surrounding close-knit streets.

The paradox that has pacified the Trea-

sury is that the replacement will be more

cost-effective than this utilitarian "state-

ment" of the Modern Movement in architec-

ture. The environment department, sup-

posedly guardian of Britain's finest

architecture, was an exceptionally inefficient

place to work in eternally windswept,

already falling to bits, dispiriting and badly

interconnected, with the lifts that were its

main arteries continually breaking down.

Some 3,500 civil servants were herded into a

repetitious grid of concrete boxes and

identical corridors. A former environment

secretary used to take visitors to the 19th

storey to point out for them the best view of

London — the only one which did not include

starts throughout the Sixties, representing a

variant on Modernism proudly labelled

Brutalism by its progenitors. Other examples

include the Hayward Gallery/Queen Eliza-

beth Hall complex on the South Bank and

the Elephant and Castle in south London. If

it is now open season to call in Betjeman's

famous friendly bombs on such debased

commercial and bureaucratic architecture.

there are plenty more candidates for attack.

Most date from the disastrous policy of

"Marsham Street" was erected in fits and

the Marsham Street towers.

It has since emerged that the compulsion

problem that begat it.

CASE FOR THE PROSECUTION

owes nothing to such considerations. Mrs Mills' appointment. In her 18 months

FAULTY TOWERS

ownership far earlier than they should. In Germany, the average age for taking out a first mortgage is 35. Until then, Germans live in rented apartments and can move from city to city as the market takes them. Young Britons, by contrast, take out their first mortgage in their mid-twenties. They are saddled with debt and strick in one place.

At their peak, in 1990, interest payments on the typical new mortgage took up 32 per cent of average earnings. In the 1980s, Britons were relatively happy to be encumbered with large mortgages as soon as they were old enough to afford them. They feared that, if they failed to climb onto the housing ladder, they would have to make do with a lower rung later. Panie buying set in. The more people bought, the higher prices rose, and the more imperative it became for anybody who could afford it to buy a house. Those who did were rewarded by a giddy increase in their (notional) wealth.

That unseemly rush into the property market prepared the ground for today's recession. Interest rates rose and duly punished industry and employment. It should be a government imperative to stop

that boom/bust cycle. House prices have still fallen less in real terms than they did in the mid-1970s (although then high inflation masked the effect). Those who have been caught by the collapse this time may hesitate before entering the market again. But while home ownership remains so heavily subsidised, Britons will continue to scrape together all their savings and lock them into their homes.

Politicians assume that there are still as many votes in increasing home ownership as there were in the 1980s. Yet the new homeowners who have discovered, painfully, that property investment is not a one-way bet, might now vote for a policy that put money into reviving the rented sector instead. The one-third of the population that already rents would welcome such a shift in subsidy too. No longer should mortgage interest tax relief be seen by government and Opposition as the political sacred cow that can never be killed for its meat.

procedures. This has rubbed off on the

prosecutors who pressed their cases. Sir

Allan showed a commendable willingness to

abandon doubtful convictions. But he paid a

price. Police suspicion of the CPS is rife.

Working relations, essential to the system's

smooth running, have sometimes hovered on

at the Serious Fraud Office, she proved

complex investigations. She is no soft touch.

Indeed critics of her tenure at the SFO more

often accuse her of an over-readiness to

prosecute than the reverse. Yet as counsel for

Winston Silcott, she has first-hand know-

Her first task is to restore the morale of the

Crown Prosecution Service. She must press

the case, first espoused by Sir Allan, for her

staff to be granted rights of audience in the

Crown courts, breaking the monopoly of the

Bar. Secondly, she must open up CPS

decision-making. There may be a reason

why the Crown seeks to jail doctors who put

terminally ill patients out of their agony, or

distraught women who fight back against

their violent husbands, or men who choose to

get their sexual kicks by submitting to-

mutilation by others. If so, the public should

investigated by Lord Runciman's Royal

Commission. The right verdict for it to return

on the charges of inadequacy against the

CPS would be the Scottish one: "not proven".

Mrs Mills' ambition should be to ensure

that, by the time he reports, Lord Runciman

"point block" development in the 1960s and

1970s. Birmingham's Bull Ring is coming

down. So should Manchester's Piccadilly

development. In London, most offence was

caused by isolated steel, glass and concrete

blocks round the parks of the West End: the

Hilton and Royal Lancaster hotels, the

Euston tower near Regent's Park and the

Royal Free Hospital by Hampstead Heath.

New Zealand House lowers over St James's

and Centre Point over Soho. Many of these

buildings were built for the government, or

subsidised with public-sector grants or

"planning gain" deals. The passion for high-

rise building, always inefficient in the use of

space, was largely the result of delusions of

Urban space can be more efficiently, more

sensitively and more attractively exploited by

intensive, low building. This lesson has been

an expensive one. London is not the city for

monumental redevelopment, like Paris and

the centre of Washington. Its character is

higgledy-piggledy, with medieval street

plans, gardens and congeries of old villages.

Its architecture needs to respect the

surroundings and the needs of those who are

shift the centre of gravity of London. The

great pyramid-topped tower of Canary

Wharf can be seen from all quarters, and as

far away as Stansted. It is too big, possibly

too big for its own commercial good, but at

least few will ever see it from close to. Its day

for demolition may be far off, but from a

river boat, up the old gateway to London, much of the new building in Docklands is

exciting and respects its setting. The Age of

Brutalism is dead. It meets its end symboli-

cally in the fall of the faulty towers of

Downstream, redevelopment is hoped to

going to use it.

Marsham Street.

grandeur by developers and civil servants.

returns a "not guilty" verdict instead.

The criminal justice system is being

ledge of the hazards.

inforce and invest in the BBC.

with inflation. Yours etc.

ASA BRIGGS. BRENDAN FOSTER. GEORGE HARRISON. RICHARD HOGGART, TERRY JONES, CAMERON MACKINTOSH. IRIS MURDOCH. MICHAEL PALIN, DAVID PLOWRIGHT.

Television. Manchester M60 3AA. February 5.

On the right rails

Sir. Mr Witt of the British Road Federation says (letter, January 31), that he understands that 90 per cent of the population never travel on a train. Our understanding based on independent market research, is that just under half the population use the

needs and achievements to be similarty wide of the mark.

Yours faithfully, JEREMY EVANS (Director of Public Affairs), British Railways Board, Euston House, 24 Eversholt Street, PO Box 100, NW1.

Church 'superiority'

From the Bishop of Brentwood

not expressed, an "ecclesiological feel like second-class citizens.

Sadly, some may be inclined to see the recent Vatican response to the first Anglican-Roman Catholic International Commission, wrongly or rightly, as a further sign of this.

Yours faithfully, THOMAS McMAHON, Bishop's House, Stock, Ingatestone, Essex. January 31.

The right to die

From Mr Ludovic Kennedy been writing tosh again about euthanasia ("Whose death is it

Derek Humphry's wife, Jean, having watched her mother take five years to die in agony from cancer. developed the disease herself at 40. It spread rapidly to her bones, liver. kidneys. Her pain was not wholly alleviated by analgesics and not wanting to die as her mother had done, she begged her husband to obtain some powerful drug that she could take when she could bear her condition no longer. He did this with the help of a Harley Street friend, and on Easter Saturday, 1975. she

It was a traumatic moment for both: they had been happily married their tender farewells to each other "sickening"; not nearly as sickening as I find Mr Levin's denigration of it.

It was this event that determined the course of the rest of Mr Humphry's life, the founding of the Hemlock Society in California, his presidency of the World Right to Die Federation, and most recently

publication of Final Exit. Although Mr Levin, like me, is now senile, that is no excuse for his saying that this book is banned in

Letters to the editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number -(071) 782 5046.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

Private Business and Europe's two

Liberal Democrats already commit-

parties to address the matter.

Yours etc., NICHOLAS GOULDING.

February 5.

From Mr David Wade

The Forum of Private Business,

Ruskin Chambers, Drury Lane, Knutsford, Cheshire.

Sir, The absence of an automatic

right to interest on overdue debts is a

legal anomaly. Such a right exists in all the other jurisdictions of the

European Community (except for

Ireland, Portugal and Greece) and also in the United States. The

principle adopted elsewhere is that

when debts are not paid on the

agreed date, or when the law implies.

the customer is in breach of contract

and should compensate the supplier

for his loss by way of damages. English law is different. In 1893

the House of Lords decided that due

to past decisions there was no such

automatic right at common law, that this was unjust, but legislation was

needed to put the matter right. Since

then the courts have repeatedly

the Law Commission and Lord

However, nothing has been done. A "voluntary code of conduct" is now

being canvassed by big business as an alternative to legislative reform. It

would not give small businessmen

the legal remedy needed to care this

injustice. Nor would it compensate

judged from a recent survey putting

the current level of overdue debt to

small and medium-sized businesses

in this country at £90 billion. The

problem with voluntary codes is that

they will be observed by those who

already honour their commitments

and ignored by those who regularly

profit by failing to pay their trade

depend upon our stores. If Coun-

cillor Weeks's plan is being considered by ministers, I trust that they

Why should we pay for the sins of those superstores which seek to

squeeze extra profits at the expense of

corner stores. A progressive rate

Most of these shows, including

mine, have been in the pipeline or on

tour or in America for several

months if not years: most seem to be a response either to the notion that a

certain songwriter has been unjustly

neglected, or that anthologies are

more affordable than vastly expensive new musicals which could crash,

as did half a dozen last year alone.

It does a disservice to all composer

shows to attack them simply because

they have accidentally arrived in a

group. You might as well object on

the same principle to No 9 buses, but

they do still have their individual

means of ending it. At present this is

will spare a thought for us.

the neighbourhood shop?

Yours faithfully, MORTON MIDDLEDITCH,

OPEN (Outlets Providing for

Everyday Needs), 67-69 Whitfield Street, W1.

The scale of these losses can be

pointed to this injustice; among them

Roskill and Lord Scarman.

them for their losses.

debts on time.

Yours faithfully,

Temple, EC4.

February 5.

Chairman.

Јапиагу 30.

would reflect this.

DAVID WEEKS,

Westminster City Hall,

64 Victoria Street, SW1.

Yours faithfully,

PO Box 240,

Yours sincerely,

SHERIDAN MORLEY,

Chelsea Harbour, SW10.

DAVID WADE

2 Mitre Court Buildings,

Unpaid bills and legal drawbacks

From the Under Secretary of

Sir, I can well understand the

frustration expressed by Mr Alistair

Sampson (letter, February 5) about the delayed payment of bills and the

damage that this causes to small

Though the arguments for legisla-

tion imposing statutory interest on

overdue bills may appear cogent and powerful, there is little evidence that

a legislative approach would work in

practice. Most organisations repre-

senting small firms recognise the practical difficulties in framing an

effective law and share the govern-

ment's view that its impact would be,

at best, minimal and that it could actually damage the small firms sector. Indeed, only on Tuesday, the

Credit Protection Association

warned of the dangers of trying to

impose statutory interest on overdue

The answer to delayed payment is for industry to change its own payment practices and I can reassure

Mr Sampson that the government is

actively encouraging this process. For example, this department has recently published a detailed guide to prompt payment, "Making the Cash

Flow", and I have sought the

personal commitment of the chair-

men of Britain's top 100 companies

to the principle of prompt payment.

I also recognise that the public

sector should set an example and a

survey of the payment record of government departments is pres-

The eradication of late payment

requires a fundamental change in

business culture and neither the

government, nor many other organ-isations, believe legislation would

Department of Employment,

From Mr Nicholas Goulding

drag on the whole economy. The government, together with the CBI, is still wedded to voluntary

Sunday trading

From the Chairman of OPEN

Sir, Mr Sampson rightly draws attention to the need for a legislative

solution to late payment of commer-

cial debt which is driving so many

companies to the wall and acting as a

codes as the solution, despite the fact that such codes have failed to make

any impact in the past. Without legal

sanction such codes will be observed.

by those who already honour their

commitments and abused by those

Sir, Councillor David Weeks, pro-poses that the rateable values of

shops which open on Sundays

should be increased to reflect their

opportunities for profit (report, Janu-

ary 27). It is not clear from your

report whether his proposal would apply only to stores which cannot

open on Sundays, but would like to do so, or would embrace small con-

venience stores which are already

entitled to open on Sundays for the

sale of most of their goods.

ently being undertaken.

achieve that change.

Yours faithfully,

ERIC FORTH.

Caxton House,

February 5.

Tothill Street, SW 1.

State for Employment

Party lines on **BBC** funding From Lord Briggs and others

Sir. With the approach of a general election, we regard it as vital for the leaders of the three main parties to make clear their attitudes to the funding of the BBC. The BBC's charter is up for renewal in 1996; it is therefore the Parliament that is about to be elected that will almost certainly decide this issue.

For most of its history, the BBC has been seen as a part of the social fabric of Britain. In fulfilling its brief to educate, inform and entertain, the BBC has performed a wide range of valuable services to the nation. It has encouraged talented writers, actors, musicians and all those involved in the craft of film-making. Its education programmes have helped to shape the outlook of generations of young people. It has provided independent observation of the life of the nation and the world.

All around the world, the BBC is synonymous with high-quality pro-grammes and first-class production

Today the BBC is in retreat. The preoccupation with cutbacks and the market economy has made a publicly funded body unfashionable. The consequent retrenchment is involving wholesale cuts in programme budgets and in the BBC's regional service. The range and diversity of the BBC's output is at serious risk.

Few large organisations are perfect, and some of the efficiencies being put into practice will give the viewer better value for money. But now is the time to stop the cuts and to start supporting a valuable national

We believe that a future government which cares about education, diversity and the maintenance of our national culture will want to re-

We therefore urge the three party leaders to make a commitment to the future of the BBC, and to state in their election manifestos that they will continue to support the licence fee and allow it to rise at least in line

ANTHONY SAMPSON, RÔY STRONG, The Campaign for Quality PO Box 321.

From Mr J. D. A. Evans

railways at some time. It is not surprising that we find his assessment of the railway industry's

January 31.

Sir, I read with interest the article by Derek Jennings (January 27) con-cerning the "effortless superiority" of the Anglican Church towards other Christian churches. There is some truth in this.

However, as Roman Catholics we need to examine our own conscience. For centuries, and even on occasions since Vatican 11, we have implied, if superiority" towards other churches. which must often have made them

Sir, I see that Bernard Levin has anyway?". February 3): contemptible

My organisation represents 10,000 small local food shops and From Councillor David Weeks Sir. The letter from Mr Terry convenience stores. They have al-Clements (January 30) raises undue ready suffered from the recession. concern about the potential impact high interest rates, the decline of the of my proposal on small busine small store sector, the uniform busi-The beauty of a supplemental Sunness rate and now from the comday business rate is that it can be petition on Sundays from the supergraded according to the size of the stores. Increased rates could be the retailer. Large companies who open on Sundays place a far higher demand on council services than final straw for our sector which has already seen the number of small

40 years ago to 38,000 today. Higher rates would be catastrophic for us, for the 50,000 people whom we employ and for the mil-lions of people, especially working mothers, the elderly, the disabled and those without transport who

stores decline from around 145,000

Safety in numbers?

From Mr Sheridan Morley

Sir, Benedict Nightingale's review of The Cotton Club (January 31) raises a general objection to the number of nostalgic "songbook" shows currently on offer around London theatres, and as the deviser/narrator of the one about Vivian Ellis at Islington's King's Head, (to which he was generous) I clearly have an axe to grind. But to object to the proliferation of

the genre seems to me as random as 10 complain about there being too much Shakespeare around, or not enough Expressionist German drama. "Fads" and "trends" don't sell tickets, and nobody starts out to do what anybody else is doing.

this country when it is freely available at £12.95 (the Attorney General having realised the futility of banfor many years and she had borne him three sons. Mr Levin says that he ning a book in England which is not finds Mr Humphry's account of banned in Scotland).

Mr Levin does not seem to have asked himself why the book has been such a success in the United States or why branches of the World Right to Die Federation now exist in more than 40 countries. It is because more and more people dread the prospect of a life artificially and miserably prolonged by medical science beyond its natural term, and seek some

> Yours etc. LUDOVIC KENNEDY. Ashdown, Avebury, Wiltshire. February 3.

denied them.

Tricia Howard's Any legislation must of course be effective. The Right to Interest right to privacy Group — consisting of the Forum of

From Mr Des Wilson Sir, I believe that you were in-

largest debt collection agencies — will shortly be producing revised proposals addressing most of the objections made to the interest on advertently harsh when you stated of Ms Tricia Howard, in your leading article today, that "the right to privacy of the lady in the case, which Debts Bill talked out by the government in February 1990. With the at first was surely close to total, was also surrendered by her when she summoned reporters and photographers" for a photocall.

ted to early legislation on this issue the time is indeed right for the other The fact is that Ms Howard has been hounded for days. Her family and friends were being harassed. And it was even more likely to be the case that her life would be made a greater misery from now on until the abloids had drained every bit of blood from the story.

She reluctantly took the view. having taken her lawyer's advice, and also our advice, that it would be best — to put it bluntly — to let the dogs have their day.

Surrendering" her privacy was done with the utmost reluctance, but I believe was as sensible a course as it was courageous.

Incidentally, Ms Howard has turned down considerable sums of money and acted with remarkable integrity and that, too, should be a matter of record.

DES WILSON (General election campaign director), Liberal Democrats, Cowley Street, SW1. February 6.

Fixed fees for lawyers

From Mr Lloyd M. Groves

Sir, "Fixed fees" for lawyers, which really mean "smaller fees", may well find favour with the public and politicians alike, but I urge your readers to stop and think carefully

before joining in the hue and cry.

The Lord Chancellor is suggesting that no matter how long or complex a case in a magistrates' court conducted under legal aid, the fee should nearly always be a fixed one. No reward shall be given irrespective of the length of time such a case may take, no matter how demanding a case may be and ignoring any special

effort given when it is needed. Magistrates courts are places not only for robbers and villains but the likes of us all, who perhaps due to misfortune, mistake or error of judgment can so easily find ourselves in the dock. If it is you, Mr or Mrs Average, before the court I urge you to ask yourself how you would feel if dealt with, at a time when most vulnerable, by a lawyer who could only give you a limited time within the scope of the fixed fee to be

It may sound trite but every case that comes before the courts is different. To ascertain those differences much care and attention must be given. Criminal legal-aid work is demanding, stressful and often carried out at unsociable hours. If the work is not done properly because the fees are inadequate, we shall have more Birmingham sixes, Guildford fours and Tottenham threes. What then the cost? The price

is our liberty. Yours faithfully, LLOYD GROVES, West London Law Society, 37 Harley Street, W1. February 4.

Patient's charter

From Ms Jane Lee Sir. If the patient's charter is to be an example of the government's pledge to improve standards of service, it is vital that users of the National Health Service are aware of the exact wording in each assurance. I would

like to give just two examples:

1. The right to be "referred to second opinion if you and your GP agree this is desirable". Fund-holding GPs work to a tight budget and, no matter how willing, may be unable to meet the cost of further consultation fees. Under such circumstances, perhaps the only "right" for the patient is to change GP. 2. The right to "have access to your health records". Yes, but only those which were written since last November and those which would not cause

'undue concern to the patient". The added, again unmentioned, condition is that each health authority has the right to charge up to £10 for such Rather than spend nearly £2

million on a somewhat meaningless patient's charter, the government should have invested this muchneeded money in health services. Yours sincerely,

JANE LEE (Co-ordinator). Hospital Alent, 51 Grove Road, Hounslow, Middlesex. January 28.

Favoured occupations From Mr W. J. Schafer

Sir, I was interested to read that train drivers are no longer held in esteem by the public (report, February 5), as my own profession has met with a similar fate in recent years.

But which occupations are so honoured? Yours faithfully, W. J. SCHAFER

(Chartered architect), 56 Belvedere Road, Ashton-in-Makerfield Wigan, Greater Manchester February 5.



COURT CIRCULAR

SANDRINGHAM

February 6: The Queen visited the West Norfolk Home Hospice Support Group, Tapping House, Snettisham, Norfolk, today and as received by Dr Hugh Ford. Mrs John Dugdale, Sir Kenneth Scott and Mr John

Haslam were in attendance **BUCKINGHAM PALACE**

February 6: The Prince Edward this morning attended a Service in Reading Minster to commemo ate the Fortieth Anniversary of The Oueen's Accession, follow by a Reception at the Town Hall. Reading, Berkshire

His Royal Highness was eccived b Her Majesty's Lord-ientenant for the Royal County son) and the Bishop of Reading

Luncheons

(The Right Reverend John Bone). Mrs Richard Warburton was in

YORK HOUSE ST JAMES'S PALACE February 6: The Duke of Kent, Patron of the Tree Council, this morning launched the Royal Anniversary Trees Campaign at Kensington Roof gardens, 99

Captain the Hon Tom Coke was in attendance. The Duke and Duchess of Kent this evening attended a Service of Thanksgiving to commemorate the Fortieth Anniversary of The Queen's Accession at Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford.

Commander Roger Walker and Mrs David Napier were in

Kensington High Street, London.

Birthdays today

Australian, New Zealand and Papua New Guinea Chambers of Lord Sterling of Plaistow was the guest of honour and speaker at a luncheon given jointly by the Australian, New Zealand and Papua New Guinea Chambers of Commerce yesterday at the Inn. on the Park Hotel. Sir Victor Garland, president of the Australian chamber, received the guests. Among those present were:

The High Commissioner for Papua New Guines, the Agents-General for New South Wales, Queensiand, South Australia and Western Australia and the Chairmen of the New Zealand and Papua New Guinea Chambers of

New Property Cases Mr Kenneth Bagnall, QC, presided at a luncheon given by New Property Cases at the Carlton Club on February 6, at which the speaker was Mr Steven Fogel, of Titmuss Sainer. The guests were: Titmuss Sainer. The guests were sir Christopher Collett. GBZ (firmst and Youngh. Sir Brian Cowell (Healey and Baker). Mr John Gratwick, OBE. Mr. Angus MacLennan Den Dansto Bank). Mr John Farry (Eanmerpons). Mr Kush Chappanan Oones Deg). Mr John Lavers. Mr Christopher Jones Dagle Stat, Mr Ronnie Nathan (Waterglade). Mr Andrew Beer (Wide-Sapte). Mr Jeffrey Hackney (Oxford University). Mr Peter Snowden (Kreidinforeningen). Mr George Borwell (Taylor Woodrow). Mr Sydney Jacobs (Herbert Wilkes). Mr Graten Odgers (Affred MacAipine). Mr Andrew Wide (Lawtonec Graham). Mr Peter Welbum (Holman Penwick). Mr David Bwars (Sweet and Maxwell). Mr W.H.S. May Theodore Goddard). Mr David Swars (Grant Thornton) and Mr David Segnat.

Reception

High Sheriff of Greater London The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress, accompanied the the Sher-ills and their ladies, attended a reception given yesterday at Mer-chant Taylors' Hall by the High-Sheriff of Greater London and Mrs Richards for representatives of Christian churches in London. The Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster and the Bishop of were among those

Mrs G.T. Banks, former Registrar General for England and Wales, 59; Lord Bellwin, 69; Mr P.W. Bennett, former chairman. W.H. Smith and Son Holdings 75; Mrs Caroline Bingham writer, 54; Lord Bottomley, 85; Miss Dora Bryan, actress, 68; the Earl of Cork and Orresy, 82; Professor Sir Clifford Darby, geographer, 83; Mr Gerald Davies, rugby player, 47; the Earl of Harewood, 69; Mr Ian Jack, executive editor. The Independent on Sunday, 47; Mr Michael James, writer and nuclear energy adviser, 51; Lord Keith of Kinkel. 70; Sir John Leahy, diplomat, 64; Dr Barbara MacGibbon, 64: Dr Barbara MacGibbon, pathologist, 64: Sir George Moseley, civil servant, 67; Mr G.J. Mulcahy, executive chairman, Kingfisher, 50: Sir Philip Myers, former chief constable, North Wales Police, 61: Sir Robert Reid, chairman, West Lambeth Health Authority, 71: Mr R.W. Watson, former director-general, NFU. 66; Sir Brian Windeyer, radiologist and former vice chancellor, London Univer sity, 88.

Royal Aeronautical Society

The following have been elected to fellowship of the Royal Aeronautical Society:

CAL SUCKEY:
I I COURSE, R V Dalziell, I
R Easton, A B J Forman, R J Forrester,
A Fohrman, B J Forman, R J Forrester,
A Fohrman, B A Stassa,
G Hayward, H Humphries, R Mc
Jones, J S Marrin, M F Moulton, R M
Rosen, J S Marrin, D W Pickston, R I
Reid, K M Rosen, R Singh, A J Smith,
W Stracknen, P H Summerfield, G /
Teylor, L A Turpen, D W Williams, J M
Young.

Inner Temple

The following have been elected Master of the Bench of the Inher-Mr Murray Ashley Pickering.
QC: Mr Martin James MooreBick, QC; Miss Ann Mallalieu;
QC (Baroness Mallalieu); Miss
Elizabeth Gloster, QC; Mr
Donald Michael Cryan.



A horse lies beneath the wheels of a gun carriage after being dragged 50 yards across Hyde Park, London, where the King's Troop, Royal Horse Artillery, fired a 41-gun salute yesterday to mark the 40th anniversary of the Queen's accession. The mare got up after about a minute and needed eight stiches in a leg wound. She is thought to have slipped as she galloped across a path

Latest wills

Sir Arthur John Dring, of Purbrook, Hampsbire, former, colonial administrator in India, left estate valued at £79,287 net.

Dr Russell Maddox Davies, of Winchester, Hampshire, consu tant anaesthetist at Queen Elizabeth Hospital, East Grinstead last survivor of the Guinea Pig Club's medical and welfare triumvirate, left estate valued at £187,876 net.

Mr Michael Raoul Roffe-Silvester, of West Buckland, Somerser, founder of Mr Roffe-Silvester's Hounds which hunt the Brendon Hills, left estate valued at £256,097 net.

Mr Horace Arthur Young Nutt. of Little Abington, Cambridge-shire, left estate valued at £4.106.425 ner. Other wills include (net. before tax

Mr Frederick Charles Camon, of Bexhill, East Sussex ___E541,274. Mrs Ruth Ann Callingworth, of Leeds, West Yorkshire _ £643,076. Mr John Edward Evan Evan-Cook, of Cuckfield, West Sussex. £774.093. Mr Donald Lawrence Glatzel, of

Finchley, north London, chair-man of Cope and Timmins Holiday 2705:519. Mr Michael David Golder, of Badminton, Avon £1,690,852. Mr William Desmond Clark, of Glemsford, Suffolk...... E542,874.

Dinners

Mrs Cyril Horsford and Mr

Royal Society for Asian Affairs

The Aga Khan was a speaker at the annual dinner of the Royal

Society for Asian Affairs held last

night at the Savoy Hotel. Lord Denman, president, was in the chair and the other speakers were the High Commissioner for India

To Lord Shawcross, QC Lord Shawcross, QC, was the

guest of honour at a dinner held

last night at 60 Victoria Embank-

last night at ou victoria embank-ment to mark his 90th birthday (February 4). Sir Dennis Weatherstone was host and Lord Alexander of Weedon, QC, also spoke. Among others present were Lord Callaghan of Cardiff, Lord Goodman, CH, Lord Ha-

vers, Sir Geoffrey Howe, QC, MP, and Dame Rose Heilbron.

Turners' Company

At the annual Awards Court held

yesterday in Apothecaries Hall, the Master of the Worshipful

Company of Turners, Mr M. Simmonds, PCA, welcomed the

visitors and introduced Professor Tom Patten, CBE, BSc, DEng,

PhD, FEng. FIMechE, FRSE.

President of the Lostination of

Mechanical Engineers, who pre-sented the medals, prizes and

certificates to the three winners in the Engineering Design Com-

petition, to the 12 Craft winners

and Sir Michael Wilford.

HM Government Mr Michael Howard, QC, Secretary of State for Employment, was host at a dinner given by Her Majesty's Government last night at the St Ermin's Hotel in honour of Mr Victor Ermakov, Vice-Chairman of the Russian Committee for Anti-Monopoly Policy and New Economic Structures and the Russian delegation visiting Britain under the Know How Fund. The Ambassador of the

Russian Federation was present. Royal Society of St George Mr John Minshull-Fogg, Chair-man of the Royal Society of St George, accompanied by Mrs Minshull-Fogg, presided at a dinner held last night at the Naval Club to mark the 40th anniver-sary of The Queen's accession to

sary of The Queen's accession to the throne. Sir Colin Cole, Garter Principal King of Arms and president of the society, Admiral Sir William Pillar, Mr George Andrews, Mr David Thorp, Director-General of the English-Speaking Union, and the Ven Richard Mason also spoke. Among others present were: Among others present were: Lady Pillar, Lady Cole, Sir William and Lady Shapland, Vice-Admiral Godfrey Place, VC (chairman, Victoria Cross and George Cross Association), Mr Deputy and Mrs Alfred Shindler, Mr and Mrs Charles Fair-weather, Mr Nigel Blood, Count-

ess Beautoy-Helm, the Chairman of the Sussex branch of the society and Mrs Bury, officers of the City of London, Wickford, Cinque Ports and City of Westminster branches of the association, the Master of the Upholders' Company, Mrs C Robinson, Mr and

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Saint Thomas More, humanist and statesman, chancellor 1529-32, London, 1478; Charles Dickens, Portsmouth, 1812; Sir William Huggins, astronomer, London, 1824; Sir James Murray, philologist, Denholm, Borders, 1837; Alfred Adler, psychiatrist, Vienna, 1870; Sinclair Lewis, novelist, Nobel laureare 1930, Sauk Centre,

DEATHS: James Stewart, 2nd Earl of Moray (the "bonny earl"), murdered, Donibristle, Fife, 1592: William Boyce, organist and composer, London, 1779; Ann Radcliffe, novelist, London, 1823; Joseph Sheridan Le Fanu, novelist, Dublin, 1873; Adolphe Sax, inventor of the saxophone, Paris, 1894; Daniel François Malan, prime minister of South Africa 1948-54, Stellenbosch, Cape Colony, 1959.

The King's School,

Worcester On May 22, 1992, there will be a thanksgiving service in Worcester Cathedral at 10.30am to mark the 450th anniversary of The King's School. A ball will be held in the evening. Further details are obtainable from Mrs J. Bridges at the school.

Summoned by nuclear bell

The ship's bell from the retired ouclear submarine HMS Warspite has a new role. It has been given to Hereford City Council to be rung to summon members to

Forthcoming marriages

and Mrs C.I. Livy The engagement

between Andrew George Alexander of Putney London. and Caroline Joy Lovy, nee Moss, of New Maiden, Starrey. Mr D.S. Ayre and Miss J.A. Land

The engagement is anisotness between David, son of Mr and Mrs D. Ayre, of Hardepool, Cleveland, and Joy Afson, daughter of Mr and Mrs G.M. Lamb, of Great Bodkhain,

Mr B. Bowley and Miss M. Colyer and what of Coyer
The engagement is announced
between Benjamin, only son of
Mr and Mrs Richard Bowley, of
London, NWII, and Mylamin Sophia, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Michael Colyer, of Harlett, North Wales.

Flight Lieutenant J.C. Braties Flight Lieutenant A. Arraman and Dr R.A. Haschins
The engagement is announced between Jonathan, youngest son of Wing Communier and Mrs. of Wing Commander and Mrs J.F. Brazier, of Huddensleid, West Yorkshire, and Elisabeth, elder daughter of Mrs J.E. Hutchins and the late Mr E.A. Hutchins, of Hispenden,

Mr H.R. Davey and Miss J.L. Kostchayk

The engagement is announced between Huw Robert, son of the late Mr H. Davey and of Mrs M.J. Davey, of Bath, Avon, and Grinstead, West Sussex.

Captain E.P. Davies and Miss S.M. Gobie

The engagement is announced between Peter Davies, The Light Infantry, son of Colonel and Mrs Norman Davies, of Harfley Wintney, Hampshire, and Susan, younger daughter of Mr Joe and the late Mrs Pamela Gobie, of

M.O. Geissmann and Miss K.L. Ogg The engagement is announced between Olivier, only son of M and Mme Louis Geissmann, of Paris, and Katie, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Gerald Ogg. of Lower Beeding, Sussex.

Mr J. Ginns and Miss B. Leong The engagement is announced Mr H.J.R. Smeinford between James, elder son of Mr and Miss J.M. Daves and Mrs William Ginns, of The engagement is

and Miss J.D.L. Nicilian The engagement is announced between Christopher, elder son of

the late Mr John Jillings and of Mrs Jean Jillings, of Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands, and Joanna, daughter of Mr Michael Nieman, of Upper Sindington.

Géorgestershire: and Mrs The Duke of York, at Patron of Eleonora Nieman, of Woodstock, Oxfordshire.

Mr D.G. Kornberg and Miss K.E. Pee

Litteratus Communider A.C. Mode, RN meerse, KN
and Miss E.C. Taggart
The engagement is announced
between Andrew, eldest son of
Canasin and Mrs David Morse. of Powerstock: Dorset, and Ricabeth, youngest daughter of Mr Robert Taggert and the late

STERMA

Mrs Taggeri, of Kilmaroock. Mr CWS. Phillips

man Mans S.J. Stranger
The engagement is announced between Christopher, son of Capitain C.J. Phillips, R.N. rend, and Mrs M.E. Phillips, of Empstors. Phumpshire, and Saraka, elder daughter of Dr and Mrs R.P. Strathos, of Sheffield.

and Dr N.C. Chap The engelpement is announced between Hamish, elder son of Mrs Margaret Phillips, of St Andrews, and the last Mr James F. Phillips, and Nicola, daughter of Mr and Mrs Roy de C. Chapman, of Malvern.

Mc B.W.C. Quiller and Miss H.L. Alterboom

The engagement is announced between Ben, son of the late W.R.C. Quilter, formerly of Onebouse Lodge, Stowbarker, Suffolk and Mrs Reginald Hill. of Holfield Grange, Coggeshall, Essex, and Helen Lidwina, daughter of Mr and Mrs Hendrik Jane Leonora, daughter of Mr Akerboom, of Henderson, and Mrs Z.S. Kosteinyk of East Auckland, New Zealand.

Mr D.H.G. Raphael
and Miss C. Heint Holley
The marriage will take place on
April 25, of David Howard
Gordon Raphael, of 2 First
Beach, Ciliton, Cape Town, only
son of the late Group Captain
Gordon Raphael and the late Mrs
Pamela Bleathy, and Catherine
Hunt Holley, daughter of the late
Mr James Hunt Holley and of Mr James Hunt Holley and of Mrs Kay Huar Holley, of Wariburg, Natal.

Mr J.R. Shevill and Miss M.O. Buckley The engagement is announced between John Shevill and Myriam, daughter of Mrs James B. Buckley, of Battersea, London.

and Mrs William Ginns, of Skeffington, Leicestershire, and Belinda, daughter of Mr and Mrs Leung, of Kowloen, Hong Kong.

Mr C.H. Jillings and Miss J.D.L. Nichland Resident State of the late Mr Keith Davenport and of Mr Keith Davenport and Mr Keith Davenport

Today's royal engagements

Dorking, Surrey.

the SS Great Britain Project, will antend a dinner in SS Great Britain, Great Western Dock." Bristol, at 7.05.

The engagement is announced Prince Edward, as Chairman of between David Gideon, sen of Mr and Mrs Justin Kamberg, and Katherine Emma, daughter of Mr and Mrs Michael L. Poster.

Announces' Hall, EC2, at 12.30.

LEGAL NOTICES

Bick CQ. Memo following the policy of the Elizabeth Gloster. QC. Mr. Mrs. John Dervered, oil Harringson. Dr. Mrs. Mrs. John Dervered, oil Harringson. J. Mrs. Mrs. John Dervered, oil Harringson. J. Mrs. Mrs. John Dervered, oil Harringson. J. John Dervered, J. John

The Bollons. SW10 at 11am Wednesday February 12th. Family flowers only please, donations to The Royal Marsden Hospital.

TAYLOR - On January 29th. 1992 peacefully. Doris Margaret. Potter and Painter. Mother of Max and Lydia. Fineral on February 14th. 12 noon, Kilburn Free Church. Tel: 071-328 6821.

VILLERS - On February 5th 1992. Borrys Cartistopher Chwoles, aged 69 years, husband of Audhild and father of Carother. Rupert and Xavier. Requiem mass at The Church of St. Aloysius. Gomzaga. Woodstock Road. Oxford at 11 am Tuesday Oxford on Carother Oxford Oxford 1 am Tuesday Oxford 1 am Tues

LEGAL NOTICES

NEWBOLT On February

3rd. Sheila Vivien. widow of the late Captain Francis Newbolt C.M.G. and daughter of the late Eric Millis C.B.E. and the late Dorothy Mills. Deeply lowed mother of Wendy and devoted grandmother. Memorial Service and interment of ashes at St. Mary's Church, Chiddingfold on Tuesday. February 11th at 2 pm. Enquiries to H. Merretti Funeral Directors. 57a. Pickwick Road. Corsham, Wills SN15 998.

PETITT On February 4th, 1992 Creets Mary (one of the purpose superiorised in Section 99 et al. Chiddingfold on Tuesday. February 11th at 2 pm. Enquiries to H. Merretti Funeral Directors. 57a. Pickwick Road. Corsham, Wills SN15 998.

PETITT On February 4th, 1992 Creets Mary (one of the purpose superiorised to act as they may require. London. End of the spid Act who will formation of the spid Act who will formation. Purpose of the purpose of the purpose of the purpose superiorise to H. Merretti Funeral Directors. 57a. Pickwick Road. Corsham, Wills SN15 998.

PETITT On February 4th, 1992 Cheel Mary (one of the purpose of the purpose purpose of the purpose purpose of the purpose purpose purpose of the purpose pur as they may require. DATED this 31st day

ADAM REMOVALS LIMITED

purposes mentioned in Section 99 et seq of the said Act.
NOTICE 89 FLRTHER CRVEN that Maurice Raymond Derrington, FIPA of 4, Charterhouse Square. London. ECIM 66N is appointed to act as the qualified insolvency Practition

SCAFFOLDING CONSLITANT.
SERVICES SENGLANDI LTD
NOTICE IS HERESY GIVEN
PURSUAL 1986. THAI A
Meeting of the creditors of the
Insulvency Act. 1986. That a
Meeting of the creditors of the
above-named Company will be
held at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co., Strusted at 30 East.
London, Walnuted at 30 East.
London, Walnuted at 30 East.
London of the buryones previded for the Section 98 et seq.
A list of markes and addresses of
the above Company's Creditors
can be inspected at the offices of
Leonard Curits & Co., 30 East.
HOUSE Terrace, London, W2
6U., between the hours of 10.00
am and 4.00 pm on the two business dato
Decreding the Meeting
East of January 1992
C. GREHS, Director.

KOTICE IS HERERY GRIFAR, pursuant to Section 40 rib hasbeare, Act 1986, text a meeting of ore-fitted of the above named Courts & Co., 30 Eastfootme Termon. London, W? SLF. on Monday, 1997. Exhibit of Monday of the debt claimed to be due from the Company here been given to set from the Company here been given to set from the Lineardest to be outed at the meeting. Exhibit of providing the meeting of the meeting of the meeting of the claim significant to the cated on year behavior by only the to the cated on year of the meeting of the claim significant to the cated on year behavior. Set the cated on year of the meeting of the claim significant to the cated on year of the meeting of the cated on year of the meeting of the cated on year of t

craft trainees. LEGAL NOTICES

Notice of appointment of Administrative Receiver Newton & Bennett Newton & Bennett Registered number. 2177804 Former contamy name: Bailstreak Limited. Trading name: Newton & Bennett Engleceting Limited. Nature of business: Sale of hydraulic equipment. Trade Classification: O7. Date of appointment of administrative receiver: 4 Fabruary 1992. Name of period-appointing the administrative receiver: Michael David Gercke and Richael David Gercke and Richael David Gercke and Richael David Server Price Walterburg Bridge Stome office holder not which house Bridge Cale Server Richael David Server Redhill Surrey RH1 1RX

INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
GIANT PROMOTIONS LIMITED
NOTICE IS MERKERY GRVEN,
pursuant to Section 98 of the
irsolvency Act 1986, that a Meeting of Creditor's of the abovesamed Company will be held at
and Arterial Road, Horneburch,
Essex on Thursday 27th Februart 1992 at 10.50 are for the
purposes membened in Sections
100 and 101 of the said Act.
Notice is also bereby given, pursuant to Section 98724.0 of the
insolvency Act 1986, that Jambe
Cothern, Warren Hotse, 10.20
Main Road, Hockley, Essex SS6
ARY is qualified to ect as an insolvency Practitioner in relation to
the above company, and will furnish creditors, free of charge,
with such reformation concerning the company's sizairs as they
may resonably require
1992
By order of the Board
G.F. Baldock, Director.

_ ... t_{ee}

(Mechanical Engineering and Woodworking) in the City and Guilds ecommonics and to the three Armed Services engineering

LEGAL NOTICES appointing the administrative receivers. Midland Bank pic. Joint Administrative receivers. Midland Bank pic. Joint Administrative Receivers. Michael David Carctio and Richard Roys-Games office holder nos: 2550 and 7227. Address: Price Waterhous Bridge Gate 56/67 High Street Redhill Surrey Rill 1RX.

GHP EUROPE LIMITED (Registered in England No 2164220) TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN. Notice to bern

LEGAL NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICES

will be reem a 10.50 of the 1 hours of the 15th Petershey 1992 at the Ethianey Point, Bloomatury 1992 at the Ethianey Point, Bloomatury Prevent Control of the 15th Petershew 1 housed Luthell F.G.A. a Licenson Installer F.G.A.

anth, 21st day of Phinnary, 1992.
Notice is also hareby gives, purNotice is also hareby gives, purNotice is also hareby gives, purNotice is also hareby gives.
Notice is also hareby gives.
George Wiserness, PCA, of Montale
London, Within, 6 Raleigh House,
Admirals way, Waternide,
London, E14 96N is qualified to
act as an innothency Practitioner
is resident to the above Company
and will furnish Creditors free of
Calariys with such information
contributes the above Company's
affairs as they may reasonably
require.
Dated this 22nd day
of January, 1992.
By Greer of the Board.
J.F., Warne, Director.

Œ,

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PERSONAL APPEARS IN THE LIFE & TIMES SECTION PAGE 9

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OBITUARIES

JOHN PARRY

John Hywel Parry, OBE, former director general of the Rhodesia Broadcasting Corporation and the Malawi Broadcasting Corpora-tion, died on February 2 aged 78. He was born on June 1, 1913.

JOHN Parry came of that generation of broadcasters who discovered and developed ways in which the medium was to be used. He almost single-handedly launched the process in central Africa, starting as the first secretary to the Southern Rhodesia Post Office Broadcasting Service and eventually becoming director general of the Rhode-sia Broadcasting Corporation amid all the turmoil of Ian Smith's Unilateral Declaration of Independence in

John Hywel Parry was the son of a Welsh general practitioner and was born in Pontycymmer in South Wales. From an early age he had the Welshman's way with words and was already writing poetry when he went up to Cambridge as a scholar to read history at Gonville and Caius. A serious asthma sufferer, he took himself to South Africa in search of a better climate as soon as he graduated.

He joined the staff of the Johannesburg Daily Express as a leader writer and then became the paper's features editor and critic of music and theatre. He was already attracted to broadcasting and took every opportunity of writing, narrating and presenting programmes for the fledgling South African Broadcasting Corporation. He acted in semi-professional theatre companies as well as on radio.

In 1941 he moved to the self-governing colony of Southern Rhodesia to become secretary of the new broadcasting service and run its programming. He was appointed controller of broadcasting and then, on the formation of the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland in 1953, he was made controller of the English service of the Federal Broadcasting Corporation. He was appointed OBE in 1952.

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In the tumultuous breakup of the Federation in 1963, Parry was invited to take over the running of the Rhodesia Broadcasting Corporation as, its first director general. The RBC established highly competent television and radio services but the political situation in the country was becoming increasingly difficult with the inexorable move towards UDI. In his position as director general he had to light to retain the professional standards of his broadcasting service against the extreme white nationalism of the Rhodesia Front.

Parry's role was further complicated by the fact that

population was black and the RBC also broadcast services in Shona and Ndebele, the major languages of that population. He stayed in office during the immediate aftermath of UDI in November 1965 but the divergence between his views and those of the Smith regime meant that he was compulsorily retired

Bishop Gerald Mahon.

auxiliary bishop in West-

minster and former mis-

sionary, died of cancer on January 29 aged 69. He

was born in Fulham.

London, on May 4, 1922.

AS SUPERIOR General of

the Mill Hill Missionaries

from 1963 to 1970, Bishop

Gerald Mahon was one of the

last of Britain's bishops to

have been a full voting mem-

ber throughout the Second

Vatican Council. He attended

three sessions of the council

and addressed it twice in sup-

port of a secretariat for the

problems of world poverty.

Later he was appointed a

consultor to the Pontifical Commission for Justice and

Peace (1967-72). In 1970 he

was consecrated auxiliary

bishop of Westminster by

Cardinal Heenan and had

special responsibility for the boroughs of west London. For eight years from 1955 he had

been a missionary in the dio-

Gerald Mahon was in the

best sense a "worldly" priest,

who was never happier than

when out in the pastoral field. He was also a man of great

intellectual curiosity and un-

assuming scholarship. His conversation ranged from recollections of Leavis lectur-

ing at Cambridge (whom he could mimic brilliantly) to the

recent insights he was gain-ing into the character of the Chinese, garnered from visits

to China and a brave effort to

learn the language; or the

qualities of a particular wine.

He was a generous host at his

modest episcopal residence in London and always a good

He will also be remem-

bered as that rare person, an

excellent chairman of meet-

ings and organiser of com-

mittees, with a shrewd insight

into people's strengths and

Rear-Admiral John Howson, CB,

DSC, a former deputy C-in-C Allied

Forces Northern Europe, died on January 24 aged 83. He was born on

August 30, 1908.

IN JUNE 1944 Rommel complained

bitterly to Hitler that he could not deploy

his forces as he wished because of the

accurate shelling of the Royal Navy. Jack

Howson could not have been paid a finer

compliment. As gunnery officer in the

battleship Nelson he had already been

mentioned in dispatches for his role

during the bombardment of the beaches

in Sicily and Italy during the allied

Now in those crucial days which fol-

lowed D-Day Nelson's 16-inch guns once more volleyed and thundered as, along with other warships in the chan-

nel, she pounded the northern French ports and their hinterland in support of

the advancing allied troops. The acc-

uracy of the guns which so dismayed

Erwin Rommel was recognised with the

He came from a family whose seafar-

ing tradition stretched back in one form

or another for three centuries. His

grandfather had captained a windjam-

mer in the last century while his father

award of the DSC to Howson.

companion.

cese of Kisumu in Kenya.

within a few months. The following year he took up the more congenial position, for him, of director general of the broadcasting corporation of the independent black state of Malawi. There he was still involved in the controversies over the illegal state of Rhodesia and its effect on its former federal neighbours - matters which dominated Commonwealth (and frequently British) politics for so many years. In Malawi he had to encompass the vanities of a president-forlife who required that every speech he made be carried in full in broadcasts to the nation — and Dr Banda liked long speeches - but at least he was helping a developing nation communicate with its

own people. He retired in 1970. and returned to Rhodesia which was still locked in its obdurate independence against the rest of the world and its own black population. He modestly accepted the job within the Ministry of Education of expanding audio-visual techniques for teaching Africans.

Throughout the time he was running broadcasting stations and corporations he continued to write, direct and often perform for the medium. Some of his poems were published and many of his short stories, plays and drama adaptations were broadcast. He won the Prix de Barcelona for the best origi-nal radio play, which he wrote and produced himself in 1961.

He was a passionate sportsman and enjoyed nothing more than acting as commentator, at home and on tour, of cricket games and rugby matches, including those at Test level.

Fourteen years ago, he returned with his wife, Evelyn, to England, where his three daughters now live. All three followed him into radio or television his eldest daugh-ter, Jann, worked for the BBC and is dance critic of The Observer (ballet was yet another of his catholic enthusiasms); Lynden is senior vicepresident, television, ITC Entertainment Group; and Clare is assistant news editor of Sky News.

Living in Cambridge, he was able to enjoy watching and discussing cricket at Fenners, as well as muchprized trips to Lords and Cardiff Arms Park. He continued his interest in writing by running a creative writers' discussion group until his final more than 90 per cent of the illness.

> was a marine engineer on the Clyde. An only child, Jack Howson went to Kelvinside Academy in Glasgow, thence to Dartmouth at the age of 13 in 1921. Ten years later he entered the spartan environment of HMS Excellent, the Navy's famous old gunnery school on He served in the carrier Furious before

invasion.

the war, then transferred to the cruiser Newcastle. From Newcastle he was posted to Nelson - a challenging appointment for a young gunnery officer. Howson went to Singapore after the war, first as gunnery officer of the Pacific



REAR-ADMIRAL JOHN HOWSON

weaknesses. His ealmness nism, to seeking understand-

and resolution - though he ing with non-Catholics, with

was far from possessing a Jewish believers and with

church.

blind and unquestioning

faith - sprang from a deep

spirituality and acceptance of

the imperfections of the

Roman Catholic Church

which he served with loyalty

His experience as a mis-

sionary priest - he retained a

profound love for African

people - made him focus less

on the interior perplexities of

Catholicism than on what

Catholic faith in the provi-

dence of God could offer to

the world. From this sprang

his commitment to ecume-

and compassion.

people of diverse cultures and beliefs. Gerald Mahon's

career derived from, and

deepened his concern for, the

poor of the world and his

hatred of injustice, which he

fought not as a rebel but

within the guidelines of the

Gerald Thomas Mahon

was the son of George E.

Mahon, who lectured at St

Mary's College of Education,

housed in Horace Walpole's

remarkable Gothic fantasia

at Strawberry Hill, Middle-

sex. He was educated at the

BISHOP GERALD MAHON

Fleet then on the staff of the C-in-C Far East. He was then brought back to home waters as executive officer of the cruiser Superb before returning east, this time to Hong Kong, in command of HMS

Tamar, the naval base. Between 1955 and 1958 he served at Shape in France as a British naval representative, working closely under the direction of Admiral of the Fleet Lord Louis Mountbatten. He became a friend and great admirer of Mountbatten and was deeply affected by Mountbatten's murder by the IRA more than 20 years

While chief-of-staff to the C-in-C, Plymouth, between 1958 and 1961 he wrote his name into Royal Navy folklore by organising a Nato presentation which was sung to the accompaniment of tunes from The Mikado. His American allies were said to have looked on in wide-eyed amazement. He also endeared himself to all opponents of red tape by replying in rhyming couplets to one especially bureaucratic letter from Whitehall.

Howson's last appointment was in Norway as naval deputy to the C-in-C allied forces in Northern Europe. He retired in 1964 and in the same year joined the British Productivity Council as its north midlands regional officer. He retired for the second time in 1971 and devoted his time to charitable work. especially for cancer relief.

Jack Howson was in many ways an archetypal naval officer and Scot. Blunt, honest and straight-talking, he was full of old fashioned integrity and the work ethic. A sailor whom he once had to put in jail later paid him a tribute by describing him as the straightest man he had ever known. He always took to sea with him the Bible and Shakespeare and could quote copious passages from the

latter. Yet his life was not without its disappointments. The biggest came in the 1950s when Howson was told that he was being placed on the so-called "dry list", which ruled out his chances of high command at sea. The division of naval officers between the "wet" and "dry" lists - which reflected the steady contraction of the fleet — was always a source of great chagrin for those who found themselves

confined in future to dry land. He was also greatly distressed by the steady erosion of the Merchant Navy. He was not alone among officers of the Royal Navy in lamenting the decline of the merchant fleet which he saw as not only a disaster for British commerce but also as a source of concern for the country's security.

Howson is survived by his wife and by one son and a daughter.

pluck the strings in reverse. Romero Tomic Sherwood Thus it seemed at first glance Mangiapane

SHERWOOD Mangiapane, bass player and sometime member of the Preservation Hall Jazz Band in New Orleans, died on January 23 aged 79.

Mangiapane stood out because he played his instrument "backwards". He was left-handed and, as he did not restring his bass, he had to

that he was plucking the wrong strings. His last work was as a member of the Louisiana Repertory Jazz Ensemble, a group which specialised in playing early jazz orches-trations discovered in the archives of Tulane University.

Mangiapane was appreciated by younger jazz musicians and enthusiasts, because of his first-hand knowledge of the early days of New Orleans.

ROMERO Radomiro Tomic, who was defeated in presidential elections in Chile by Sal-vador Aliende in 1970, has died in Santiago aged 77.

Allende won the election with 36 per cent of the votes compared with Alessandri's 35 per cent and Tomic's 28. With none of them obtaining more than 50 percent, the run-off between the top two candidates went to the Chilean congress which elected

er, was overthrown and killed in a military coup. Tomic, a founding member of Chile's Christian Democratic party in 1935, was accused by some of having paved the way for Allende's victory by depriving the third, centrist, candidate, Jorge Alessandri, of votes.

Allende who, three years lat-

The Christian Democratic party was suspended by the post-coup junta but Tomic recently served as ambassador to the United Nations in Geneva.

University news

Clergy appointments The Rev John P Attack, Curate, St Andrew, Cleveleys: to be Vicar, Appleby Bridge All Salors, a newly created heartful (Planthurs) and Wells.
The Rev Clive C Barlow, Rector designate. Charibam St Mary: to be also Secretary in the Diocesan Board of Mission (Canterbury). The Rev Alan J Burgets, Carate, Glenfield: to be Vicar, Donisthorpe and Motific (Lecture). Moire (Leicester).
The Rev Alan C Carr. Curaic.
Rustington: to be Vicar, Highbrook and
West Hoathly (Chichester).
The Rev David Claric. Vicar, St Masy's.
Hillingworth, Hailing: (Wakerfield): to be
vicar, Burnsall W Rytstone (Bradford).
The Rev Michael R Clewband, Curate.
Bushbury Team Ministry (Lichfield): to
be Vicar, St Laurence, Foleshill
(Coventy). (Coventry).
The Rev John F Coleman, Corate, (NSM), St Martin, Dover to be Vicar, St Mary's Bay w St Mary's firthe-Marsh and lyychurch (Canterbury). Many's Bay w Si Many-in-the-Marsh and iny-church (Canterbury). The Rev Anthony I Dalton. Priest-in-Charge, St Many's Acctington (Black-burni: to be Vicar, St Cecilia's, Parson Cross (Sheffeld). The Rev Stephen Donald, Curate, Ardsley to be Vicar, Kendray isheffield). The Rev Paul Dunn, Curate, St Many w

The Rev Paul Dunn. Curke, 5t Many w St. Matthias and St. John. Richmond: 10-be Team Vicas, Wimbledon, Team

Church news Ministry, with special responsibility for St Manthew's, and shared responsibility for St Manthew's, and shared responsibility for St John's [Southwart].

The Rev Michael Dymock, Vicar, St Micholas, Frimnstead [Southwart]: to be Vicar Etham, St Mary the Virgin, w Demon St Mary Magdalene and Wootlon, St Martin (Canterbury).

The Rev H Joe Edwards, Rector, Aordh Kilworth with South Kilworth and Misuerton (Leicester).

The Rev Robert A Fizhartis, Assistant Curate, St Lemand, Dinnington: to be Vicar, St Peter's, Bentiey, Domesster (Sheffield).

The Rev Alam Graham, Vicar, Lyndhurst to be Priest-in-Charge, Over wallop and Nether Wallop (Winchester). The Rev Anthony W Johnson, Curate, Linterworth St Mary: to be Vicar, Countesthorpe w Foston (Leicester).

The Rev Malcolin \$ Johnson, Priest-in-Connessione w rostor (Leacester). The Rev Malcolm S Johnson. Priest-in-Charge, Peckham St John w St Andrew. to be vicar, Peckham St John w St Andrew. Andrew. a newly created benefite (Southwart). The Rev John Maryhall-Evans, non-stipendary Minister, Rugeley Team Ministry: to be Rettor, Yozali St Peter (Lichfield). (Lichfield). The Rev Alan Oates, Team Vicar, James Team Ministry: to be Priest-in-Charge. Blaydon (Durham).

The Rev Darren J A Smith, Assistant Curate, St John. Perry Barr w respon-sibility for St Luke (Kingstanding): to be Prices-in-Charge. St Luke, Kingstanding

Dean of Wath (Sheffield). Resignations and retirements The Rev Canon Leslie F Chadd, Vicar, 5t Peter and 5t Paul, Fatcham (Portsmouth) to retire as from 31 January. The Rev Eric G Charkson, Vicar, 5t Columba, Crosspool (Sheffield): to retire as from 31 May.

The Rev Lefting Frongant, Vicar, Christ Church, Dore (Sheffield): to retire as from 16 May.

The Rev Gues B Hum, Vicar, Prestonneo Fraversham (Canterbury): to retire as from 31 May. neo-Faversham (Canterbury): to retire as from 31 May.
The Rev Nicholas B P king, Vicar, Lymetack (Duffham): to retign as from 31 May.
The Rev Bernard F Mobbs, Vicar, Sohn's, Dormansland (Southwards: 10 neitre as from 31 May.
The Rev Alan F Nicholis, Toam vicar, Rymon and Dispice Team Ministry (Ram) and Wells; to retire as from 10 June. June. Rev Thomas O Simpson. Vicar. Chopwell (Durham): to retire as from 30 April. The Rev John W A Woods, Record, Barnburgh w Meiton-on-the-Mill, and

Bank lecturer in management studies. KING'S COLLEGE

Church in Wales Diocese of Llandaff Birmingham The Rev Peter Raikes, Vicar of Resolven with Todan and Rural Deaz of Nestle, to be Vicar of Skeven, while continuing as Rural Dean of Nestle.

former director of product engineering, Jaguar Cars. from

Oxford SOMERVILLE Daphne Osborne: 10 a Fulford jun research fellowship: Julia Stickland Appointment to lectureships: C v Sukumar (physics), P R Wheatiey (English).

Dr Christos Pitelis has been appointed as the first Barciays

DARWIN COLLEGE
Elected to a visiting fellowship:
Jonathan Topham. KING'S COLLEGE Eleanor Veronica Elizabeth Sharpsion. BA. elected into a fellowship upon taking up her appointment as a university tecturer in law, from Octo-university tecturer in law, from Octo-

The honorary title of professor in the school of manufacturing and mechanical engineering has been conferred on Mr Jim Randle.

Liverpool Professorial appointments Roy Chester to the chair of

oceanography. Robert H. Marrs to the Bulley chair of applied plant biology and the directorship of the University Boranic Gardens Andrew R, Mayes to the chair of

David Molyneux to be the first director of the School of Tropical Medicine and also professor of tropical health sciences. John Scott to the Louis Cohen chair of oral diseases.

Elizabeth A. Slater to the chair of archaeology. The following have received the title of-professor: Paul S. L. Booth, reader in the department of physics: Christopher T. Allmand. lecturer in the department of

history; Julian M. Crampton. Wellcome senior research fellow in basic biomedical sciences in the department of medical entomology; John Garthwaite, reader in the department of physiology; Michael W. Service, reader in the department of medical entomology.

Professor Ron Johnston, pro-vicechancellor of Sheffield University, is to be the next vice-chancellor of Essex University, it was announced yesterday.

He was chosen from 170 can-

didates and will take over his new post in the summer when Professor Martin Harris moves to Manchester University. Professor Johnston specialises in geography and has published extensively in the field. He is past president of the Institute of British

APPRECIATIONS

Alec Grant

Cardinal Vaughan School,

Kensington, and St Joseph's

College, Mill Hill - head-

quarters of the St Joseph's

Society for Foreign Missions

(Mill Hill Fathers) of which

he was eventually to become

the superior general. He was

From 1950 till 1955 he

taught in the college of the

Mill Hill fathers at Freshfield

and was then appointed to

the diocese of Kisumu, Ke-

nya, where he taught in, and

was later Rector of, St Peter's

Seminary. Kakamega. From

1971 to 1976 Mahon was a

consultor to the Vatican's

Congregation for the

Evangelisation of Peoples

and from 1980 was a mem-

ber of the Vatican Secretariat

for Non-Christians. He was

chairman of the National

Committee for Justice and

Peace (1975-80) and was also

a member of the Vatican In-

ternational Liaison Commit-

tee with World Jewry. He was chairman of the Pontifical

Mission Aid Societies, a member of the New Bearings

Committee and a member of

the governing body of the

Linacre Centre. He was also

chairman of the Committee

for Catholic/Jewish Rela-

tions, chairman of the Com-

mittee for Overseas Missions

and president of the National

life - his many close friend-

ships and staunch fondness

for the family which he had

left to become a priest -

sustained him during diffi-

cult years when the old ortho-

doxies of the Catholic Church

were increasingly under

strain. He could have been a

scholar or indeed a rather

successful businessman, and

it was the latter potential tal-

ent which shaped his career

as a priest and bishop.

"Gerry" Mahon's private

Missionary Council.

ordained priest in 1946.

I WAS a fellow member with Alec Grant (obituary, February 5) of the GLC and when it became fully effective in 1965 and he was chairman of the licensing committee I was his vice-chairman. Matters were pretty different then - smoking was permitted in cinemas and there were special provisions regarding film censorship in London. These are just two areas where we initiated changes under his capa-

ble leadership and invariably he played a useful if relatively quiet role in the Labour

Many years later, following his appointment as a Queen's Bench Master, I, as a member of a firm of solicitors, had many cases receiving his consideration and I am able to confirm all you write of him. Although very meticulous, his detailed knowledge and courteous approach resulted in his being well respected by all who came before him.

Robin Thompson

Sir Alasdair Steedman

I HAD the joy and privilege of working together with Alasdair Steedman (obituary, January 6) when he was Comptroller of the Royal Air Force Benevolent Fund and I was chairman of the Benevolent Fund of the Guild of Air Pilots and Air Navigators. Over a number of years we

Basil Handford

dealt with deserving cases of mutual concern to our funds in the closest harmony and in every instance Alasdair brought to our deliberations a unique combination of wisdom, judgment and kind-ness. We became warm family friends and his stoicism, patience and determination during his last illness was a measure of the man. He will be much missed.

David Proudlove

AS ONE who was lucky enough to be taught by Basil Handford (obituary, December 12) at Lancing more than 60 years ago, may I add my own tribute to his inspiring direction of our classical studies. Under his tutelage we did so much more than translate

Greek unseens or compose Latin elegiacs: he opened our eyes to the wider world of history, literature, philosophy and politics, and my debt to him is profound. I am glad he lived to receive my recently published anthology of classical verse translations, and to read its grateful dedication to

Peter Hadley

ALAN DAVIES

Alan Davies, the Wales and Swansea footballer, was found dead in his car aged 30. He was born on December 5, 1961.

OUTSIDE Manchester, few had heard of the young wing-er or midfield player Alan Davies when he was drafted into the Manchester United line-up for the 1983 Cup Final in place of the injured Steve Coppell. Davies, a clev-er dribbler and good crosser of the ball, had joined United, his local club, as an apprentice, making his debut at the end of the 1981-82 season.

A year and three more league appearances later he was suddenly thrust into prominence in United's Cup victory over Brighton. After a 2-2 draw Davies supplied the passes for United's first two replay, and a star, it seemed. was born.

Within the month he had won the first of 11 international caps against Northern Ireland and a second against Brazil. Sadly, instead of being the springboard for a fine career, that month was to be his high point.

A broken ankle meant that he was not fit at the start of the following season. That injury may have been crucial for his confidence and his future. Although he fought his way back, he played only three more games for United. the signing of Gordon

Strachan leaving no space for him, and he joined Newcastle, then in the first division. He played 20 times for

them but he was once again hampered by a leg ini failed to establish himself. After Ioan spells at Charlton and Carlisle, he linked up with his international manager, Terry Yorath, at

Swansea. Yorath had more faith in him than he perhaps had in himself and when the manager moved to Bradford, he paid Swansea £135,000 for Davies. Both were subsequently to make the return journey. Davies rejoining the Welsh club in 1990. In all he made nearly 200 League appearances.

He leaves a widow and one daughter.

ON THIS DAY FEB 7 1952

类型的企业

King George VI died on February 6, early in the morning, the news too late for that day's national papers. Elsewhere in this leading

article the author, Dermot Morrah, a staff writer whose monarchy and the constitution, referred to the young Queen's marriage "of affection to a Prince

possessing every gallant quality that can be a support to her throne."

GOD SAVE THE ... QUEEN

While the banners sink to halfmast for King George VI the heralds with antique pomp proclaim the titles of Elizabeth II. As the peoples of all the British nations stretch out their hands across the oceans in sympathy for the bereaved daughter, they also tender their homage to their Queen, standing ready in their loyal millions to support her as she takes upon her shoulders the heavy ourden of representative monarchy, from which there will be no relief while life lasts.

They know her and trust her as no Queen of England has been known and trusted at the outset of her reign. That she was not born in the direct line of succession, and that in nursery days her parents delib-erately excluded influences which might set her apart from other children of high rank but private station, are facts all in her favour in these days, when monarchy no longer stands aloof from its subjects.

When history comes to be written it may be held not the least of the debts this country owes to the Queen Consort Elizabeth that she maintained personal oversight in every detail of the education of the Heiress Presumptive. It was not a bookish education, nor one that followed any of the "advanced" experimental the-ones of the day, but it was

calculated to keep the Princess's mind receptive her interests wide and sensitive. her appreciation of nature and the airs lively, and above all her heart simple and open to simple things ... At the tender age of 14 it was

inevitable that the Heiress should have been kept in more than usual seclusion during the perilous years of the Battle of Britain and the continuing threat of invasion, but young as she was she showed the true instinct of royalty when she insisted before the war ended, even against her father's first decision, upon sharing the experience of her contemporaries by putting on the uniform and undergoing the training of one of the women's services. When victory came she threw herself with diligence and high spirits into a double task: to assist her parents by sharing with them the multifarious and exhausing ceremonial duties of their station, and at the same time to identify herself in every way with the characteristic life of her own generation, whether in their work or in their play ... Within the British Isles the

Queen has missed no opportunity of moving widely among all classes... They know what manner of woman she is. They know that she has inherited from her father his directness and sincerity, his courage and devotion to duty; from her mother her easy manners. breadth of sympathy and warmth of heart her gaiety which is tempered by a screne dignity native to the Queen herself.

She comes to her lofty place in an hour full of anxiety, peril, and the prospect of laborious years; but for herself she can bring to the contemplation of the tasks ahead the confidence and resilience of youth. She is of the same age at her accession as that other Queen 400 years ago, whose shining name she bears; and we may well remember that Elizabeth I in 1558 looked out upon, and afterwards triumphed over, as menacing a world as confronts

Abductor sends letter of apology

Continued from page 1

have an accomplice, but I am keeping an open mind."

The letter received in Birmingham was in an envelope with a typed label with the address: "West Midlands Police Stephanie Slater Inquiry, Birmingham, West Midlands." Mr Cook said that copies to Mrs Dart in Leeds and to Yorkshire Tele-vision were being examined by forensic scientists. Others had been posted to The Sun, News of the World and BBC Television and he appealed to those organisations to pass them to the police unopened.

The letter sent to Mrs Dart was intercepted by a col-league, it was disclosed last night. Harvey Atkin, aged 60, Miss Dart's grandfather, said that the letter had been posted from Sheffield to Leeds Polytechnic, where Mrs Dart works as a secretary. It had been intercepted by a member of staff, who handed it to police.

Mr Cook said that, during the investigation of Miss Dart's murder, West York-shire police had received up to nine letters from her abductor. In one, he had expressed remorse over her death, but others had taunted the police and referred to playing a game with them.

Mr Cook said yesterday: "There is no boasting or taunting of the police in this letter. The tone is one of regret and contrition. I remain cautiously optimistic about our enquiries."

The postmark on the letters has intensified the "Yorkshire connection" in the Slater kidnapping. The mysterious "Bob Southwall" who kid-napped her had given a false address in Wakefield, West Yorkshire, and had instructed the ransom to be left at a disused railway bridge near Barnsley, South Yorkshire.





Westminster eyesore: within two years the wrecking crews will remove the environment department's hated block in Marsham Street

82% think Ashdown should stay in office

a statement deploring the behaviour of the tabloid press. As more break-ins came to light, Des Wilson, the Liberal Democrat campaign direc-tor, said his belief in chance

was "being tested to

Mr Wilson said that his natural scepticism about conspiracy theories had been shaken by the discovery that seven local parties and the formeroffices of Lord Holme. a senior adviser to Mr Ashdown, had been rifled the past 18 months.

His suspicions were further aroused by the fact that in many cases the thieves had targeted computer software containing electorally valu-able details of membership

records. Local Lib Dem parties were being contacted and asked to provide details of incidents that seemed trivial at the time but looked different in the light of the latest events. A dossier would be sent to the Home Office or the

police within 48 hours. There is now a need for a proper co-ordinated police inquiry into what is going on," Mr Wilson said. There is a cause for concern that re-quires an inquiry. At what point do you go over the boundary from the cock-til theory to the conspiracy

> Ex-lover's pica, page 2 From the gutter, page 14 Loncliest day, page 14 Letters, page 15

Heseltine orders demolition of blot on ministerial landscape

By JOHN YOUNG

ONE of the most hated buildneed of repair and, after deings in London, No 2 Marshtailed technical studies, he was satisfied that repairs on am Street, Westminster, home of the environment dethe necessary scale would not partment for the past 20 be desirable. Options for the future of the site, including its years, is to be demolished. sale, were being considered.
In high good humour, Mr

Demolition is expected to start within 18 months to two years. By the time the wrecking crews move in, the 3,000 headquarters staff of the environment and transport de-partments should be rehoused, probably in Docklands. Michael Heseltine, environment secretary, told the Commons of his decision vesterday in a written answer. "We have decided to knock it down," he said.

The building was much in

he had done as environment secretary. The building was first occupied in 1971 and has long been regarded as an eyesore.

One of Mr Heseltine's prede-

Greater London...... Kent Surrey Sussex... Dorset, Hants & IOW .

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Edin S Fife/Lothian & Borders

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Dyfed & Powys Gwynedd & Clwyd ... N W England W & S Yorks & Dale:

S W Scotland W Central Sco

Heschine gave a press conference on the ferrace beneath

the northernmost of the

ly, he said that the decision

was the most dramatic thing

cessors said the view from his 17th-floor office was the best in London because it was the only place from which Marsham Street could not be

The concrete shell has been deteriorating, and protective scaffolding has been erected at the ends of each tower to prevent further damage. At the end of 1990. Arup Assoiunction with the Property Services Agency to advise on various options for dealing with the problems. The report was delivered last year but will not be published.

Leading article, page 15

Political sketch

Boneheads pick political dogfight

MPs appear capable of making an election is-sue of anything. Nothing, it has seemed, is too important to escape the party doglight: why, on Wednes-day the foreign secretary told us that if Labour had been in power, "Soviet armies would be massed in Europe". And nothing is too obscure: on Monday Margaret Ewing (SNP. Mo-ray) was blaming the government because communication from the Department of Health had been sent to a deceased constituent. Is there anything which MPs cannot twist to political

I thought not. Until yes-terday. At 3.16pm, parlia-ment met its match.

Let us start, though, at 2.33pm. after prayers: questions to the farm min-ister. Could barley sprout. could cows calve. could hens lay, without the Tories taking credit? Could frost blight or weevils destroy without Labour blaming

the government?
It seemed not in the hands of Alex Eadie (Lab. Midlothian) the slow movement of population from the land into the towns became a bitter consequence of Tory oppression. Robert Boscawen (C. Somerset & Frome), normally gruff. turned into a veritable Francis of Assisi, babbling excitedly of wildlife in environmentally sensitive areas and the government's measures to help little animals and flowers there.

Those of us who had not thought of Welwyn & Hat-field as a farming constituency were surprised to hear David Evans (C) loud in his support for British lamb: from Labour, he added, farmers would only get "a load of jelly". Indeed, re-plied agriculture minister John Gummer, and British lamb was "the best in the world". Labour's John P Smith (Vale of Glamorgan) protested at this siur against Welsh lamb; and Mr Gummer questioned Mr Smith's commitment to

sheep farmers. So it went on Frank Haynes (Lab) from coal-mining Ashfield seemed to argue that the Tory's poll tax was responsible for the high cost of poultry inspection; and from another ma-Labour's Robert Parry (Riverside) joined the chorus of complaint against Tory treatment of Britain's farmers". Later, when Opposition spokes-man David Clark attacked

the government's record, Mr Gummer found this "rather hard to take from a man who has said we ought to eat New Zealand apples. and not eat British sausages". Apples, pears, sau-sages and chicken entrails flew back and forth across the chamber. Was there anything, we wondered, that an MP would be unable to pick up and huri at an MP of another party?

There was. Sir Anthony Grant (C. Cambridgeshire SW) picked it up at the first questions: his own, to the PM. "When you were eight." he said to John Major, "and I was ..." (he paused) " ... a little older, the accession to the throne of Her Majesty the Queen ... " I think you can guess the rest. All good stuff. Mr Major was delighted to en-dorse the sentiments.

"Hear, hear!" Tories growled, each hopeful that fortuitous camera anele might translate into a TV signal, beaming their loyal grunts down the airwaves: and that a consituent might be at the other end Labour growled even louder, aware that their enemies would be hoping they wouldn't. Somebody shouted bollocks". Neil Kinnock

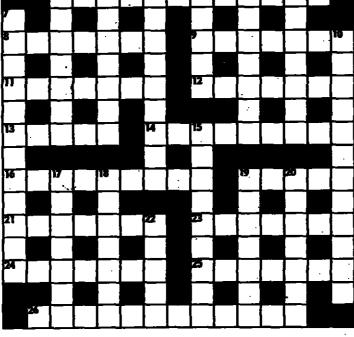
Do I dare remark that, buried in the black hearts of just a couple of Tory MPs lay the secret, hope that Mr Kinnock might find himself unable to echo Sir Anthony's enthusiasm for our monarchy and monarch? I do. Such MPs were disappointed. The Labour leader paid Her Majesty a graceful little tribute of his own. Paddy Ashdown remembered to

do the same. "Hear, hear!" Tories gritted their teeth. Sir Bernard Braine (C. Castle Point) rose. When Mr Major was eight and Sir Anthony was ... a little older, Sir Bernard was nearly forty. "As Father of the House, Mr "Speaker ... " and on he my Speaker ... " and on he rumbled, for some time. Later. Sir Alan Glyn (C. Windsor & Maidenhead: the MP with the most distinguished constituent of all) had a shorter numble. You couldn't actually hear what he was saying but it didn't matter. It was all

watched it on TV? Did she hear the lovely things they said? I wonder whether Her Majesty ever throws things

MATTHEW PARRIS

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 18.835



ACROSS

- 1 If fed salad, it turns out very well
- 8 Persuade cleric to board vessel
- 9 Check the money received by an insignificant creature (7). 11 Colourful lady rejects stuff in tin
- 12 A point ahead of defeat, this club
- 13 Old Harry was, at any rate, covered (5). 14 I govern the endless work from lay to day (9).
- 16 Make lace keep it first inside a hat (3,3,3). 19 Fruit drink, about tuppence (5).
- 21 Intellectual G-man interrupting.
- 23 Everybody, say, starts to run off quickly (7).

Solution to Puzzle No 18,834

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- 24 Steptoe's occupation, carrying round the ultimate in tat (7). 25 Can bird be found in the abbey?
- 26 In the dark, say, mistake worker for someone quinotic (6,6).

- I 'Alarm about end of perishable 2 Tried an unusual exchange (5-2).
- 3 Boat-type for Spooner to dis-parage (4-5). 4 Act freeing one but not the others
- 5 Bud isn't developing discard it
- Looking at part of journey round Ireland (7).
- 7 Neighbours are familiar (2,4,6). 10 Be unable to get up before ten? The nobleman is a case in point
- Former vehicle used by dentist perhaps? (9). 17 "Become less lax", the giant said
- 18 A chance to have one over the eight in the post office when given a rise (7).
- Capital runner losing third place 20 it gives colour to federal agents entering mine (7). 22 A number do this in the garden

(5).

section, page 9

By Philip Howard MODENA

MODENA
a. The strap of a flying buttress
b. A type of man
c. Deep pumple
ENNOMING
a. Within the law
b. Pertuining to normalism
c. Laying eggs

MOROLOGY Foolighmes.
The study of castom Answers in Life & Times, page 9

For the latest AA traffic and road dial 0836 401 followed by the appropriate code. London & SE C. London (within N & S Circs.) ... M-ways/roads M4-M1 sys/roads M1-Dartlord T... sys/roads Dartlord T-M23. sys/roads M23-M4.....

Northern Ireland

AA Roadwatch is charged at 36p per minute (cheap rate) and 48p per minute

YOU SCORE HOME OR AWAY .. because the high value benefits of WPA private health Make sure with

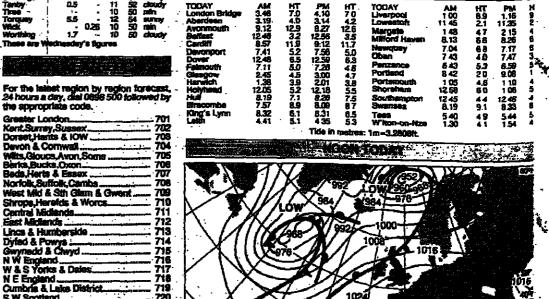
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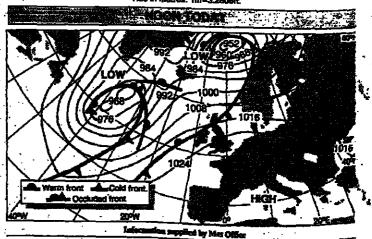
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Much of England and Wales is expected to have another dry and cloudy day although brighter intervals are likely in the east, the west Midlands and east Wales. Patchy drizzle is possible on ROUGH . western coasts while rain or drizzle in northern Scotland is expected to spread into the rest of Scotland and Northern Ireland. The south and east will, however, remain mainly dry. Mild everywhere and windy in the north. Outlook: rain spreading from the west. S2 cloudy in a superior of the 0.02 0.01 0.81

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THE TIMES BUSINESS

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 7 1992

BUSINESS EDITOR JOHN BELL



BUSINESS **BULL BY HORNS**

TODAY IN

Bull

IBM's \$110 million investment in Bull, the French state-owned computer group, shatters European dreams of an indigenous electronics

IN REVERSE

Price cutting and discount deals failed to prevent car sales in January slumping to the lowest level recorded since 1982 Page 20

TAKING FLIGHT



John Olsen is spreading his wings, leaving Cathay Pacific to join Dan-Air as time for the British airline Page 21

TOMORROW

PROFILE



Robin Biggam, the chief executive of BICC, is ambitious, but he puts his family first. Carol Leonard

SAFETY NET

The investor protection, system is being radically overhauled but firms may continue to slip through . the net_

:: THE POUND

US dollar 1.8175 (+0.0070) German mark 2.8702 (-0.0013) Exchange index

A TOTAL

91.2 (+0.1) Bank of England official close (4pm)

STOCK MARKET

1961.2 (-9.7) FT-SE 100 2534.3 (-12.8) **New York Dow Jones** 3261.63 (+4.03)* Tokyo Nikkei Avge 22104.92 (+168.55)

INTEREST RATES

London: Bank Base: 10½% 3-month Interbank 10°16-10½% 3-month efigible bills:10-93°22% US: Prime Rate 6½%

CURRENCIES

London: £: \$1,8155 £: DM2,8685 £: SwFr2,5617 £: FFr9,7810 S: DM1.5795* S: SwFr1.4090* S: FFr5.3825* \$: Yen125,73* \$: index:62.3 \$DR \$0.777553 : Yen228.39 £: Index:91.2 ECU £0.711634

£ ECU1.405216 £: SDR1.286065 London forex market close

GOLD

London Fixing: AM \$356.25 pm-\$355.95 Aut 3.530.25 pm3.395.35 close \$354.95-355.45 (£195.50-196.00) New York: Comex \$355.05-3\$5.55*

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (Feb) \$18.65 bbl (\$18.65)

RETAIL PRICES RPt: 135.7 December (1987=100)

Denotes midday trading price

Dash for gas yields seventh contract

GEC Alsthom wins £580m PowerGen deal

By Ross Tieman, industrial correspondent

GEC Alsthom has won a £580 million contract to build a 1,360 megawatt gas-fired power station for PowerGen, Britain's second-largest fossil fuel generating company, to be sited at Connah's Quay, North Wales.

The gas power station order is the seventh secured in Britain by the Anglo-French manufacturer since the start of last year, when the newly privatised generating industry embarked on a "dash for gas" to replace older coal-fired power stations.

PowerGen's decision to roceed with Connah's Quay highlights the scale of power station building in Britain, and the role of technology based upon aero-engines to harness gas as a fuel.

The orders secured by GEC Alsthom alone will provide generating capacity amounting to more than 5,000 megawatts, almost a tenth of the total capacity in England and Wales. Siemens, of Germany, and Asea Brown Boveri, the Swedish-Swiss

ed receivers to Forwell Groun

an office design and fitting

business in Middlesex, after

the company's failure to re-

Timothy Harris and Chris-

topher Hughes from Cork

Gully, the insolvency special-ist, were appointed on Tues-

day evening, although the

news was reported to the

stock exchange only yester-

had been guilty of "unprofes-sional behaviour" in writing

to some of Forwell's staff tell-

ing them that the company

was bankrupt even though it

was still trying to negotiate a

One employee was told that her overdraft was frozen until

she contacted the branch

about her employment situa-

tion. A Lloyds spokeswoman

said the bank had apologised

to the company and the staff

Forwell owns properties worth more than £1.5 mil-lion, which means that

Lloyds' loans are likely to be

repaid in full. The group's

unsecured creditors, however,

will receive little or nothing. The shares, suspended at 3p,

are thought to be worthless.

Until last week, Michael

Wheller, Forwell's chairman,

and the South Yorkshire Pen-

sion Fund, a 16 per cent

shareholder, were trying to rescue the company, and hop-

ing to appoint Postern Execu-

tive Group, a firm of com-

A letter from Postern to the

company last month said that

it believed there was a viable

core business that could be

saved. Forwell lost £1.1 mil-

lion in 1990 but is thought to

have broken even last year

despite the recession.

pany doctors.

rescue package.

about the letters.

The bank admitted that it

pay debts of £1.4 million.

group, have also won orders to build gas-fired plants in the

GEC Alsthom, a 50:50 ioint venture between Lord Weinstock's General Electric Company and Alcatel Alsthom, of France, is now the front-runner in the United Kingdom market for new power stations. Its UK orders for gas-fired plants total £1.6 billion. Kelvin Bray, the chairman of GEC Alsthom's subsidiary European Gas Turbines, said talks over fur-

ther orders were continuing.

The wholesale renewal of a large chunk of baseload generating capacity comes at a time when Britain's two big-gest privatised generating groups, National Power and PowerGen, are already under attack for steep price increases.

Critics say it would be cheaper to keep old coal plants running even though they are much less efficient at converting heat into electricity. The generators say replacing part of Britain's capacity with gas turbines will enable emissions to be reduced while

Forwell's main subsidiaries.

to a management buyout

team. The rest of the group,

which had 45 employees, is

A Lloyds spokesman said:

'A banking relationship re-

lies on an active dialogue and

accurate information. Unfor-

tunately, that is not always

forthcoming. We have been working with Forwell for a long time to try to find a solution to their problems.

Regrettably, there wasn't

likely to be wound up.

Receivers put in

at Forwell Group

By NEIL BENNEIT, BANKING CORRESPONDENT

LLOYDS Bank has appoint- The receivers hope to sell

phurisation equipment onto existing coal-fired plants.
Since its privatisation.
PowerGen has announced

building only a minimum of

immensely expensive desul-

the closure of four coal plants. with a combined capacity of nearly 1,000 megawatts. By 1995, when Connah's Quay comes on stream, the com-pany will have added almost 3.000 megawatts of gas Connah's Quay will be built on the site of a coal power

station which closed in 1982. PowerGen's first gas-fired Humberside, will come on stream later this year. A second, at Rye House, Hertfordshire, is planned to begin generating in 1994. Both will use Siemens technology.

But rising gas prices have iven an added advantage to GEC Alsthorn. Since 1984, Alsthom has been working with General Electric of America to develop an enine, used to power Boeing gine, used to power generation. The resulting turbine, the 9F, has an energy conversion efficiency of 54 per cent, more than 2 per cent ahead of any rival, according to Mr

Bray. The turbines to be installed in Britain will be part-manufactured by GE in South Carolina and completed at GEC Alsthom's Belfort plant in eastern France. Steam turbines and generators will be manufactured at Rugby, Warwickshire, and Stafford. Overall, 55 per cent of the work will be carried out in the UK and up to 1,000 people will be employed building

Connah's Quay.

Because of the growth in demand, GEC Alsthom is investing £100 million to enable the Belfort plant to build the whole turbine from 1995 onwards, and to increase capacity in response to growing demand for power generation gas turbines from continental Europe and the Pacific rim.

Price rise pledge, page 21



Seat on the board: Ann Burdus brings her international experience to the board as a non-executive director

BAe cuts 450 jobs but may buy Prestwick

BY OUR INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

BRITISH Aerospace is to cut 450 jobs in its dynamics division. The company claimed its ability to undertake guided weapons projects would be damaged unless the govern-ment took an early decision to buy its Asraam air-to-air

The cutbacks accompanied confirmation that BAe may buy Prestwick airport, in Ayrshire, from BAA, the airport operator, in an effort to protect its 2,000 staff there. "We are in discussions with

BAA about protecting our manufacturing plant there and the operation of our fly-ing college," BAe said. The renewed spate of job losses and doubts over the future of Prestwick airport

underline the pressure on BAe as it struggles reshape its operations and restore City credibility after last autumn's disastrous rights issue. BAA is developing Glasgow as Scotland's international airport in place of Prestwick.

But BAe relies upon the Prestwick runway to fly out com-pleted Jetstream 31 and 41 commuter aircraft, and for the operation of its commercial flying school.

The latest job losses in the

dynamics division, to take effect by May, are in addition to 2,400 announced last March. The cutbacks will fall hardest upon the Stevenage site, where the headcount will be reduced by 300 to 3,700. Stevenage is centre of BAe missile research and

development.
At the missile manufacturing plant at Lostock, near Bolton, Lancashire, the workforce will be cut by 130 to 1,470. The workforce at the Bristol systems integration operation will also be cut, by 20, to 830.

David Laybourn, managdivision, said the cutbacks



Clark: spring decision

were necessary to protect the future of the business. He insisted, however, that delays in purchases by the British and foreign governments were increasing the pressures

"If an early positive deci-sion is not forthcoming on Asraam, our ability to bid for or undertake major guided weapons projects for the Min-istry of Defence will be damaged," he said.
Final tenders to supply

Asraam, an advanced air-toair missile intended to replace the Sidewinder now in service with the Royal Air Force, January. BAe is bidding against BGT of Germany and a consortium comprising Matra of France and GEC Marconi of Britain.

Alan Clark, the defence procurement minister, has promised a decision by early

spring.

BAe is thought to believe that further job losses within the dynamics division will be unavoidable if the company does not receive an order by April. BAe says the missile has excellent export potential if it is bought by the Ministry

Dawson wears new look

By Gillian Bowditch

BOARDROOM shake-up at Dawson International, the textile group, has led to the departure of two directors. The group, which owns the Pringle and Ballantyne brand names, is to pay six-figure compensation to Brian Faulkner and Bill Simpson. Dawson, which appointed

Nick Kuenssberg as its UK chief executive in August, has reorganised the group_into two main companies, Daw-son Consumer Products and Dawson Premier Brands.

Ronald Miller, the group's chairman, said there would be no redundancies or reorganisation at factory level. Ann Burdus becomes

non-executive director of Dawson. She has international expèrience in advertising and marketing at McCann Erickson, Interpublic Group and AGB Re-search. Mr Kuenssberg becomes chief executive of Premier Brands, while Philip Kemp becomes chief executive consumer products.

Management of the com-pany will be through a chairman's committee comprising Mr Miller, John Embury, finance director, Mr Kemp and Mr Kuenssberg.

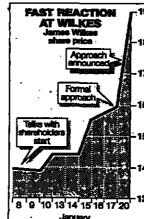
Advisers rebuked by panel

By MARTIN WALLER

THREE financial advisers have been rebuked by the City's takeover panel for their actions in the £36.6 million hostile takeover bid by Petrocon, the engineering and sur-veying business, for James

Wilkes, another engineer. The bid was announced on Monday, but it is the events leading up to the news that have attracted the panel's concern, in particular a 26 per cent rise in the Wilkes share price to 189p while behind-the-scenes negotiations were going on. Henry Cooke Lumsden, the

Manchester broker, bought a parcel of Wilkes shares on behalf of Petrocon on January 10, when the price was 140p. Between January 8 and 16. Cooke's corporate finance side, in conjunction with Smith New Court Corporate Finance, secretly sounded out a total of 14 institutional shareholders, far



more than normal, to see if they would support a bid. By the end of that period the share price was 10 per cent higher, and the panel has ruled that both banks were in breach of the City code by not consulting with it when they started to widen the discussions and again by not consulting when the

share price began to move. Cooke had no comment, but Smith New Court blamed an excess of enthusiasm: it appears each contacted shareholders while unaware the other was doing so. The Stock Exchange's insider dealing unit is investigating the affair, but the panel does not believe there were any unto-

ward transactions. Once informal bid talks between the two companies had broken down, Rothschilds, adviser to Wilkes, should have put out a formal announcement on January 20, before a further rise in the bid price. The panel held the bank primarily responsible for a breach of the code but did not make a direct criticism of the bank's behaviour. Rothschilds says the delay

in putting out the announcement was caused by difficulties in getting ratification from the Wilkes board.

Comment, page 23

Trying to find the designer ecu

FROM TOM WALKER IN BRUSSELS

EUROPEAN socialist MEPs have upped the stakes in the battle to produce the Eurocurrency of the future by offering a week-long visit to Strasbourg to anyone who can design a fitting pattern for an ecu note or coin. Scepties at the ecu competition launch suggest-

ed the second prize might be two weeks. Jean-Pierre Cot, the socialist group president, wasn't deterred, however, saying: "The desire for an ecu is being carried by a tide of popular opinion."

M Cot produced an array of figures to

back up the emotional cry for one continent, one currency. He also detailed a theoretical journey in which £100 be-came £44 just through today's routine currency exchanges across nine EC borders. The socialists promise that, as well as free trips to the Euro-altar in Strasbourg, the winning overall design will be minted as a coin "in a limited run".

There are three categories for those wishing to enter the competition under-11s, over-11s and professional graphic designers.

M Cot conceded that despite the desire for a single currency, the very word 'ecu" is controversial. In Germany, it is virtually unpronounceable; in Belgium, its principal connotation is as a 28 per cent proof beer. M Cot produced the first designs for the competition, produced by "Nathalie", a Strasbourg student. Nathalie's notes consist of rather hazy European maps, splodges of colour and a wilting flower, the Europa, which, perhaps prophetically, died out in the

sixteenth century.

In the commission, meanwhile, the debate rages as to what to call onehundredth of an ecu. The Latin term "as", used for small coins in Roman times, has been suggested but faces ridicule from Anglophones. All national denominations — pence, cents, pfennigs and the like - have been ruled out. The commission estimates that 68 billion ecu coins will be needed to float the new currency. This would assume 200 coins for each of the Community's 340 million inhabitants.

The socialist competition is vying with a similar challenge launched in France, and sponsored by the French government to the tune of 500,000 of those old-fashioned things called francs. Pierre Bérégovoy, the French finance minister, has questioned the need for any royalty to appear on ecus, but Britain was given the wink at Maastricht that the Queen could appear on one side of the new currency.

M Cot admitted that all currency names would be welcomed in his competition, even conceding that some-thing called the pound would be considered for Euro-dominance. "I don't think it would get very far,



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Car sales fall to lowest for 10 years

By Kevin Eason, motoring correspondent

CAR sales last month fell to their lowest since 1982 in spite of price cutting and discount deals for fleet buyers.

January figures from the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders indicated that relief for the motor industry is a long way off after a 1991 performance in which sales fell by a fifth.

The government was hoping for a slight recovery, but sales of new cars sank to 153,682, 6.02 per cent below the January 1991 total.

However, the industry said the 6 per cent drop was distorted by late registrations in the last few days of the month by manufacturers willing to do cheap deals of the sort criticised by the monopolies commission's investigation into car pricing this week.

The commission said large discounts to fleets forced manufacturers to charge private buyers more.

After 20 days of the month, the market was down 16 per cent, with Vauxhall leading Ford, traditionally Britain's largest car company, with a 21.3 per cent share of the market compared with Ford's 18.3 per cent.

However, Ford is thought to have registered about 15,000 cars in the last few days of the month to take sales to 38,502 and a market share of 25.05 per cent. Vauxhall slipped back to a

19.94 per cent share, registering 30,643 cars, while Rover suffered worst, with its market share slipping from

JANUARY'S TOP SELLERS

(11,874) (10,573) 2 Ford Escort 3 Ford Flesta (9,528) (8,371) (7,033) (5,058) 4 Ford Sierra 5 Vauxhall Astra Ford Orion (5.024)9 Peugeot 405 10 Rover Metro

15.4 per cent the previous January, to 11.95 per cent with 18,367 cars registered last month.

Vauxhall said: "A fall of just 6 per cent in January sales does not indicate in any way that the recession in the new car market is easing. The figure masked a lot of activity in the final few days of the month which seemed to involve what we can only describe as unpredictable market forces

Sir Hal Miller, chief executive of the SMMT, said: "While the shortfall was the smallest since March, 1990, it is still the lowest January total since 1982 and down 25 per cent on January, 1990, which, in turn, was more than 6 per cent below 1989.

This all adds un to contin uing bad news for the motor industry and demonstrates that a boost for car sales is still desperately needed."

Ford has been working hard in recent weeks to clear a huge backlog of cars made in 1991 with heavy discounts.

There was a good performance from Peugeot Talbot, which further increased its market share from 7.19 per cent to 8.05 per cent with 12,378 registrations.
Sales of Jaguars continued

to slide, with January down from 806 in the same month of 1991 to 561, while Rolls-Royce/Bentley sales also dropped from 107 to 75 and Lotus from 187 to just 66. Nissan, in its first month under the direct control of the

Japanese manufacturer, suffered a drop in sales from 7,238 to 4,819. Audi-Volks-wagen registrations also fell. as did those of Fiat, Honda, Volvo, Alfa Romeo, Mazda, Saab and Skoda, while Mercedes-Benz was about the same. There were increases for Toyota, Suzuki, Seat, Renault. Porsche and Citroen.

L&T section, page 7



Court setback: Mr Nadir lost his plea for a postponement of the civil action

Nadir fails to delay civil suit

ASIL Nadir, former chairman of Polly Peck Interna-tional, has failed in the High Court to postpone a £378 million civil suit while he faces a separate criminal prosecution. Christopher Morris, the Polly Peck joint administrator from Touche Ross, is suing Mr Nadir on behalf of Polly Peck to recover the sum, which is owed to

creditors. Mr Justice Knox did not accept that Mr Nadir might prejudice his criminal defence by giving evidence in the civil action. But he asked for undertakings from the plaintiff for Mr Nadir's protection. The judge ordered

that future hearings in the civil action should be heard in closed court until the case comes to trial. He said it was highly unlikely the civil case will come to trial before the criminal action.

The prosecution must not disclose any information re-ceived in evidence from Mr Nadir to third parties. But information can be passed to co-administrators, Richard Stone and Michael Jordan, who are running the commercial affairs of Polly Peck. potential witnesses and the creditors committee, on condition they observe the confidentiality rule.

The judge, on a request

from David Oliver, counsel for Polly Peck, allowed the administrators to use information from the defence to help gain control of company assets in northern Cyprus. The court heard the admin-

istrators were still struggling to gain control of these assets. Summing up, the judge said the £378 million claim against Mr Nadir was based on alleged fraudulent breach of duty, involving 263 payments and misappropriation

of property.
The court also established that Mr Nadir's legal fees were being met by a third party. Mr Nadir was made bankrupt last month.

Rent cuts put life in **West End** market

By MATTHEW BOND DRAMATIC cuts in asking rents are at last injecting some life into the depressed West End office market, according to Neil Sinclair, joint managing director of Sinclair Goldsmith, the quoted prop-

But while the stimulating effect of such out-price runts is good news for the letting market, the substantial reductions could send a new chill through the investment market, where valuations are usually based on the latest evidence of open-market rents rather than the rent an incumbent tenant is actually

paying.
Mr Sinclair's comments came after his firm had successfully let a 45,000 sq ft building in St Martin's Lane to Carlton Television, the new holder of the London weekday commercial television franchise.

The lening, he believed was the largest single transaction to have taken place in the West End for more than a

When the building was completed last June, the initial asking rent sought by its developer, Grosvenor Square Properties, was £47.50 a

square foor. Mr Sinclair said, however that it was quickly realised that such a rent was simply unrealistic in the current market. So in the autumn of last year the asking rent was cut by a third to £31.80 a square foot.
The landlord very sensibly

decided to cut the rent to a level where we could be certain of attracting interest, and it worked," Mr Sinclair said. The final rent that Carlton will pay GSP, a subsidiary of ABP, has not been disclosed but Mr Sinclair said it was "not far off"

the reduced asking rent.
Mr Sinclair thinks that
every bit as significant as the
successful letting of the building is the fact that there was a serious under-bidder. He added: Tenants are now coming back into the

market because they think it

has dropped to a level where it is unlikely to fall further."

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

TSW confirms appeal to Lords over licence

TELEVISION South West will take its case to the House of Lords after failing on Wednesday in a legal challenge to the loss of its licence to a lower cash bidder in October's ITV auction. After a board meeting yesterday. TSW said it would appeal "in view of the importance of the case to TSW and the shortcomings in the Independent Television Commission's decision-making process

Three Court of Appeal judges refused by a two-to-one majority on Wednesday to quash the ITC's decision to award the licence to Westcountry Television, which bid £7.8 million against TSW's £16.1 million. TSW, which was granted leave to appeal despite the opposition of Westcountry and the ITC. said it hoped the House of Lords would hear its case this

Eastern diversifies

EASTERN Electricity, one of the 12 privatised electricity distributors in England and Wales, has set up a subsidiary to sell combined heat and power systems in Britain. Eastern will distribute the Nutec range made by Nedalo. a Dutch business that has about 12 per cent of the British combined heat and power market. The systems, ranging from 30 kilowatts to 770 kilowatts, are mainly used by commercial premises, such as local authority buildings, hotels and leisure centres, where a supply of electricity and steam is

AmBrit defence costs

AMBRIT International, the oil and gas exploration group. spent £420,000 defending itself against Pittencrieff, an unwanted bidder, AmBrit, which last month recommended a £7 million offer from United Energy, another oil and gas explorer, discloses the figure in its results for the year to December 31. These show a 26.2 per cent fall in pre-tax profits to £127,000. The 1990 figures were boosted by higher oil prices at the time of the Gulf confrontation. Turnover was £2.64 million against £2.53 million. There is again no dividend.

Court issues tax ruling

INFLATION will be taken fully into account when capital gains tax liability on assets acquired before 1965 is calculated. That is the effect of a Court of Appeal decision on a test case. The Inland Revenue has contended that the allowance was partly lost on assets acquired before the tax was introduced. The test case was brought by a consortium led by David Collison, tax partner of Peters, Elworthy & Moore, a Cambridge accountancy firm, on behalf of a client who inherited antique furniture in 1952. The Inland Revenue can appeal to the House of Lords.

Trump protection plan

TWO of Donald Trump's hotel-casinos in Atlantic City. New TWO of Donald Trump's hotel-casinos in Atlantic City. New Jersey, plan to file for chapter 11 bankruptcy protection next month in an effort to reorganise their debts. Such action by managers at the Trump Plaza Hotel and Casino and Trump's Castle Casino Resort would mirror that taken last year by Mr Trump's other casino, the Trump Taj Mahal Casino Resort. Pre-packaged bankruptcies, for which the managers say they plan to file, secure bondholder approvals beforehand to speed what can otherwise be a costly and lengthy stay in the American bankruptcy court.

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BETTER PAPER, BETTER JOBS

Britain wants Unctad to go for 'trade rather than aid'

BY COLIN NARBROUGH ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

BRITAIN will seek to focus the work of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (Unctad) on the poorest economies and underline the need to pursue development through trade rather than aid. according to Tim Sainsbury, the trade

Mr Sainsbury will represent the government at the Unctad VIII gathering in Cartagena, Columbia, start-ing on Sunday and to be attended by about 2,000 delegates from 150 countries.

In an interview with The Times, he said he believed the new international environment, and the growing recognition among the developing countries of the need for greater self reliance, meant that Cartagena would represent a "great opportunity". But he made clear that that did not mean telling the developing world "now boys you're on your own".

The time was right, however, for a change of approach to economic development, with the emphasis on "each country being primarily re-sponsible for its own development", he said. This is in keeping with the stance the World Bank and other international agencies have adopted in recent years to foster "good government" as the



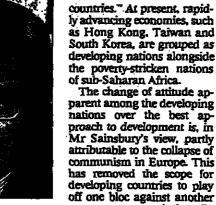
Sainsbury: self-reliance key to attracting financial resources into developing

countries. Kenneth Dadzie, the Unctad: secretary-general, said this week that he expected the Cartagena meeting to open the way to UNCTAD becoming a more relevant, effective and flexible organis-



Mr Sainsbury is keen to

point out that dependency on aid has already dwindled remarkably in many parts of the world. Even in Africa, only about 8 per cent of in-come comes from foreign aid. In Latin America, the figure is below 1 per cent. Reflecting the government's efforts to relieve the debt problems of the poorest nations, Mr Sainsbury said: "The real debate ought to be focusing on the genuinely least developed



attributable to the collapse of communism in Europe. This

has removed the scope for developing countries to play off one bloc against another to pursue economic benefit. Defence spending has also been reduced with the end of East-West confrontation. Mr Sainsbury, while opposed to international commodity pacts, such as those

for coffee, rubber and oil, does not expect developing countries with natural resources to want to terminate the parts, however well or badly they function. "Produc-ers will always hanker after managed markets," he said. This week's call from Sir Leon Brittan, the European commissioner, for the broader Gatt framework to be responsible for competition rules worldwide, is likely to be deb-

ated at Cartagena, as Unctad has responsibility for restric-

tive practices. Any merging of the two organisations at this

stage would, however, be

highly premature, Mr

South Korea, are grouped as developing nations alongside the poverty-stricken nations of sub-Saharan Africa. ing that Exor, which with its allies forms the main shareholder in Source Perrier. must make a bid for two The change of attitude apthirds of the company. Under French bourse rules parent among the developing nations over the best apa shareholder, or group of proach to development is, in Mr Sainsbury's view, partly

shareholders, who hold more than one third of the equity have to bid for two thirds. Another rule requires counter-bidders to offer a price at least 2 per cent higher than the original bid, or offer the same price without condi-

Exor bid.

ruling

confirmed BY MARTIN BARROW

FRANCE's stock market regulator has confirmed his rul-

Exor, which is appealing against the ruling, said that if it is forced to bid for Perrier the offer may be worth just FrI,235 a share.

Nestlé and Indosuez have bid Fr1,475 a share for all Perrier's capital. They have also reserved the right to drop their bid if they obtain less than 51 per cent of Perrier.

An Exor spokesman said that the bid price rule did not apply to Exor and its allies because Nestlé and Indosuez launched their bid after an Exor ally increased its stake. the move which triggered the

Exor bid requirement. Exor said that if it is constrained to make a bid, the price could be as low as that paid by Saint-Louis when it bought a block of Perrier treasury stock on January 3, two weeks before the Nestlé and Indosuez bid.

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ACCUSATIONS by Britain's Marine

Accident Investigation Branch that Cy-prus's shipping legislation may be inade-quate were furiously denied by government officials on the island. which has worked hard to become a leading maritime nation.

Britain's criticisms came in a draft report on an accident last April in which a Cypriot-flagged cargo vessel sailed on after colliding in bad weather with a Portsmouth fishing trawler whose crew of six drowned. A court in Cyprus later dismissed all charges against the captain and first mate of the Cypriot ship, saying there was no evidence to prove they

wilfully abandoned the stricken trawler. The BMAIB report was damning in its general conclusions. Captain Peter Marriott, chief inspector of accidents, said: "There is evidence that the Cyprus merchant shipping legislation may be.

inadequate, in parts, to enable the appropriate authority to enforce and fully discharge their international obligations

as a leading maritime register."

Serghios Serghiou, the director of merchant shipping in Cyprus, said: "I believe they made this report to satisfy public opinion in Portsmouth. "Cyprus is an easy victim because

we're not a powerful nation." With 2,100 ships totalling more than 20 million gross tons, Cyprus has the sixth-largest fleet in the world. Keen to avoid criticism that it is a flag of convenience, it has launched an expensive campaign in recent years to improve standards and services.

Limassol claims to be the world's leading ship management centre, hosting companies like Hanseatic Columbia, and Seatankers, attracted by a combination of tax incentives, good relecommunications, a skilled local work-

force and low living costs.
Loukis Loucaides. Cyprus's deputy at-

ecuted the case against the Zulfikar's captain and first mate, said: "It's a very unfair, inaccurate and misleading report, the motives of which I suspect. Throughout, I don't believe the British authorities have acted objectively. Like in Britain, our courts are independent. As prosecutor, I may even have disagreed

Cyprus appointed a special committee two years ago to upgrade its shipping laws to match international standards and its work will soon be completed, Mr Serghiou said. But, he added that, concerning maritime safety. Cyprus is al-ready up to date, having ratified the international Safety of Life at Sea Con-

November branded the court's decision a whitewash.

The case was tried under British and

ged li

UK accident report angers Cyprus

with the Zulfikar decision, but it was hona fide and I respect it."

vention in 1985. Bereaved families in Portsmouth last

international maritime law.

Domestic customers to benefit from results of Littlechild enquiry into electricity charges

is a much bigger element

face much steeper price in-creases. Professor Littlechild

warned the generators yester-

day that he will be monitor

ing prices in the pool, or spot

market, for electricity very

He said customers should

regard the outcome of his

efforts as satisfactory. However, "regulation would be more

straightforward and the com-

panies, as well as customers

would benefit, if the controls

were less dependent on forecasts of inflation".

The director general said he would take on board the

lessons of the enquiry in his

forthcoming review of price controls on the power

Removal of the link be-

tween power prices and infla-tion would be warmly

welcomed by many economists and businessmen, who

have argued that it helps to

perpetuate inflationary pres-

Watchdog promises power price rises of less than inflation

BY ROSS TIEMAN, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

ELECTRICITY prices for domestic customers in England and Wales will rise on average by less than the rate of inflation in the financial year beginning in April, Professor Stephen Littlechild, the director general of electricity supply, has promised.

IDAY 11 by.

diversifies

Professor Littlechild, head of Offer, the regulatory body, said he had secured a commitment to increases averaging less than 3.7 per cent. In total, increases would secure revenue for the companies £30 million below the maximum to which they are enti-tled under the inflationlinked price control formula.

The director general launched an enquiry into the price rise plans of nine of the companies last October that inflation for the year to the end of this March would turn out below expectations when prices for the year were

Professor Littlechild has concluded that eight of the

THE search for a successor to

Alan Lord as chief executive

of Lloyd's of London has been

postponed for at least a year,

pending completion and im-

plementation of a report on

the future governance of the

Lloyd's had intended to ap-

point a replacement to take

over when Mr Lord retires in

June. Goddard Kay Rogers, a

firm of headhunters, -was

hired last year to draw up a

However, the plans have been abandoned after contro-

versy over the rejection by the

Council of Lloyd's of recommendations on governance in

the recent Rowland Task

Force report. The section on

governance, which recom-

mended splitting the coun-

cil's regulatory and market

operating roles, was the only part of the report to be reject-

ed out of hand by the council.

Adverse reaction to the de-

cision led to the appointment

last month of a working par-

ty, to be chaired by Sir Jeremy

Morse, chairman of Lloyds

Bank, to examine the gover-

nance issue. That was widely

council.

seen as a climbdown by the

Mr Lord said yesterday

about tracing more than 7

million people who are pay-

ing tax unnecessarily.

They are non-taxpayers

who have not registered for

interest on their savings to be

The Inland Revenue is launching a £500,000 adver-

tising campaign this weekend

to encourage savers to claim

back tax deducted from their

interest or the dividends paid

applications simply and

quickly, all tax refund offices will be manned from 8 am to

8 pm seven days a week from Sunday to deal with freephone calls from investors who believe they are affected.

...To help people to make

on shares and unit trusts.

that from July i his role March 1986.

Inland revenue

to pay back tax

By LINDSAY COOK, MONEY EDITOR

THE Inland Revenue has set The overpaid tax can be

short list of candidates.

confirm

By Jonathan Prynn

companies will in total receive £60 million more from customers than they should Four companies, London Electricity, Manweb, See-board and Yorkshire Electricity, have promised to refund any excess receipts to custom-

ers by charging less next year. Four other companies, Eastern Electricity, Northern Electric, Norweb and Southern Electric, have insisted that they are entitled to keep the extra revenue, but have agreed to refund excess receipts through lower prices

The modest increases for domestic customers contrast sharply with forecasts that bulk power prices will rise by 25 to 30 per cent this year. However, the cost of generating electricity makes up a small component of domestic bills. Most of the cost of supplying households relates to maintenance of a complex distribution network.

Large industrial users, for whom the generating charge

would be taken over by a

triumvirate of senior Lloyd's

officials: John Gaynor, the

head of finance, Andrew Du-

guid, head of market services,

and Bob Hewes, head of reg-

The appointment of the

three-man team would en-

sure "the continued manage-

ment of the Corporation in

the style we have become used

to in the past few years". Mr

hiatus, no lacuna".

Lyle, and Mr Hewes.

claimed back to April last

year, when composite rate tax

was replaced by basic rate tax

on savings.
This increased the tax rate

on savings from 22 per cent

for basic rate taxpayers to 25 per cent. However, it allowed

non-taxpayers to avoid pay-

Those affected are mostly

people with an income below

£60 a week, although where

pensioners are concerned,

that sum can be substantially

ing tax on their savings.

mer of 1993.

ulatory services.

sures in the economy. ☐ John Collier, chairman of Nuclear Electric, the stateowned atomic power company, has written to the Major Energy Users Coun-Team of three is cil, protesting at plans by large industrial companies to withhold payment of the 11 per cent levy on power bills used to subsidise the nuclear named to replace chief of Lloyd's

Mr Collier said the increase in prices in the electricity pool, which triggered the companies' protest plan, has "nothing to do with the levy." He said most of the £1.2 billion-a-year subsidy was needed to pay for decommissioning of the stations when they reach the end of their

He added: "The viability of both National Power and PowerGen is being assured by subsidies in their hedging contracts with the regional electricity companies, at a level roughly equivalent to the

Real price rises in the pool

questioned



In addition to Sir Jeremy and David Rowland, the chair-BY NEIL BENNETT man of the Task Force, the BANKING CORRESPONDENT nine-man committee in-KEVIN Maxwell was ques-tioned in a private hearing in cludes Sir David Walker, the the High Court yesterday about the whereabouts of the chairman of the Securities and Investments Board. Neil Shaw, the chairman of Tate & missing Maxwell company

pension funds. Mr Lord, aged 62, has been chief executive since The court session follows his submission on Wednes-day of an affidavit to the pension fund liquidators. This, for the first time, details the financial dealings of Bishopsgate Investment Management, the company that managed the bulk of the pension money, where Mr Maxwell was a director.

Robson Rhodes, the liqui-dator of BIM, is trying to trace up to £400 million of

pension fund assets.

Mr Maxwell was questioned under oath in front of a companies court registrar. The hearing is expected to continue today. Mr Maxwell had claimed that he had the right to remain silent to avoid the risk of self-incrimination.

says the new regime is over-On Monday, he lost his legal battle to remain silent when the House of Lords refused his appeal request. The Court of Appeal had earlier decided that the Insolvency Act forced him to hand over details about BIM's affairs.

Dumas: backed curb public companies in an inferi-

It is the second time this

Sir Leon argues both the new accounting and information arrangements fall within his remit; ominously for France, earlier this week he

weapons from the full 17member commission.

Roland Dumas, the French

The Court of Justice normally takes at least two years to consider such appeals.

In the case of the competition information exchange, France argues that Sir Leon has no right to make deals unflaterally with third countries; the argument against the new accounts procedure is that it discriminates between public and private companies, which according to the Treaty of Rome should be treated equally in competi-

Figures suggest delay in recovery

ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT THE downturn in business confidence reported by the Confederation of British Industry was the main cause of an 0.6 per cent fall in the government's longer leading indicator for January, the Central Statistical Office

(CSO) said. In the City, the drop in the longer leader, which tracks turning points in economic activity about ten months ahead, and a slight downturn in the shorter leading index. which looks four months forward, were seen as confirma-tion that recovery will be delayed this year, with a modest upturn coming only in the second half.

Robert Lind, economist at UBS Phillips & Drew, said a fallback in the indicators had been expected on the basis of recent survey evidence and official economic data. He believes output could fall for a few months before a "mild upturn" in the second half of

The CSO said the longer leading index turned up in May 1990 and continued to rise until last October.

Provisional figures suggest that a turning point may have been reached last May in the shorter leading index, which has also shown a slight downturn because of the latest gloomy survey results and lower registrations of new Cars.

coincident index, which traces the business cycle, has started to decline at a markedly slower rate since last May, after more favourable survey evidence on stocks and capacity. The CSO has, however, cautioned against reading too much into the coincident data, given their partial nature.

□ In Washington, Nicholas Brady, the treasury secretary, said there were "some encour aging signs" for America, although many factors had made the economy sluggish. In testimony to the Senate

budget committee, he said the spiral of rising prices had been halted and interest rates were now at the lowest for 20 years. All this had occurred against the backdrop of the end of the cold war. That would prove to be, over time, enormous proportions, Mr Brady said.

Ties that bind: Stephen Littlechild wants to see price controls less dependent on inflation forecasts

Salomon leaps 67% despite oil loss

FROM PHILIP ROBINSON IN NEW YORK

SALOMON Inc, the scandalhit Wall Street investment bank, yesterday reported a 67 per cent rise in net profits despite losses in its oil busi-

best on record for Wall Street firms, many of whose profits tripled or even quadrupled on the back of a surging stock market and an avalanche of new share and bond issues. Salomon said last month that its figures would not match optimistic forecasts of analysts. Net profits rose last year from \$303 million to \$507 million on total revenues up from \$8.9 billion to \$9.1 bil-

The spanks Wall Street profits more than doubled

billion, but the Phibro Energy oil trading and refining business plunged \$34 million into the red. In 1990, Phibro's \$492 million profit accounted for more than half the group total.

Andrew Hall, the former

of Phibro, was paid \$23 mil-Hall's salary, which is linked to the performance of the division he heads, is expected

to drop this year.

ment after bonuses were declared. It is expected to announce more departures this month, after paying out the \$130 million bonus pool to senior managing directors. The pool was set up five years

ket crash.

BP executive who is president lion during that year. Mr

Salomon's new management, headed by Warren Buffett, the billionaire investor, with Deryck Maughan as chief operating officer, has recently changed the system of paving what some analysts regard as excessive bonuses to some of the firm's individ-

erated largely from bonds, arbitrage and the highly specialised investments derived from the stock and bond markets. It has already said

ago to keep staff in the after-

math of the 1987 stock mar-

Salomon declines to break

down its figures, but says its

Wall Street profits were gen-

its breaches of the Treasury bond market rules did not generate a significant profit. Last August, Salomon

admitted breathing the rules Salomon has suffered a ment Treasury bond auctions

refining operations, the thirdlargest in America, lost \$60 million in the final three months of last year, largely because of a writedown of the value of the oil in its pipes.

Donald Howard, Sal-

lished that Salomon commit-

ted any wrongdoing in the

"short squeeze" last May, in

which prices were driven

higher and some market

traders claim they incurred

losses. Four of Salomon's top

executives resigned over the

\$80 million profit, reversing declines in 1989 and 1990 as

fees from underwriting new

cash-raising by American corporations offset the drop

in bids and deals. Its oil

Investment banking added

scandal.

omon's finance director, said been "terribly profitable" from \$416 million to \$1.036 wave of defections of senior but it has not yet been estab- throughout the year.

France challenges Brittan over state firms' accounts

FROM TOM WALKER IN BRUSSELS

FRANCE has challenged Sir Leon Brittan before the European Court of Justice over his edict that leading European Community public-sector companies should submit ac-counts to Brussels every year.

The move is just the latest development in the catalogue of French objections to the competition commissioner's increasingly vigilant watch over state-aided industrial groups, which pepper the in-dustrial spectrum in France.

The rules are intended to help the Commission detect state aids, such as the sweeteners paid to British Aerospace for the Rover acquisition, at an early stage and thus prevent lengthy legal wrangles. France, which had to recover nearly £1 billion from Renault in the most famous EC state-aid case,

> intrusive.
> "We are contesting the substance as well as the form of these rules. We think the commission is discriminating against public-sector companies - large private companies are not required to



or position," a French official

year France has gone to the court in its rearguard action against Sir Leon. Last month it said the commissioner's agreement to exchange infor-mation on EC competition and anti-trust investigations with the American authorities was illegal and needed ministerial approval

submit these reports. It puts received backing for his

foreign minister, last year backed a plan that would have forced Sir Leon to have cleared many of his anti-trust manouevres with Martin Bangemann, the industry commissioner, but it was this initiative that was defeated in the commission this week.

France and Italy both accused Sir Leon of wrecking the interests of European industry last October when he blocked the bid by ATR, the Franco-Italian plane maker, for De Havilland of Canada, and the French government clearly refuses to let the mat-

Cathay chief takes the controls at Dan-Air

BY HARVEY ELLIOTT. AIR CORRESPONDENT



Olsen: tough job owed hundreds of pounds.

JOHN Olsen, the European a chief executive who would past 12 months, Dan-Air has gross domestic product and general manager of Cathay be able to push through the switched its focus from charmany of his forecasts had Pacific, who has been with the structural changes. Hong Kong-based long-haul airline for 25 years, is to take 49, has had only limited expe-over the day-to-day running of rience of short-haul scheduled ing number of scheduled what we would achieve during Dan-Air. Mr Olsen will take over as group chief executive flights, his success in developing and, according to ing Cathay's high-quality reputation among European able to keep its charter rates man, will be "riding into where the gunfire is thickest".

travel industry regard as its Mr James put together a financial restructure last year that pulled the group back from the brink of collapse,

involvement with Dan-Air in Europe, however, he admit-

On scheduled routes, with-

lives we are in the driving

ter to scheduled flights by in- been based upon that as-Although Mr Olsen, aged creasing the number of sumption. "We have no rea-1991, but for 1992 much depends on market growth. which is outside our control." Mr Olsen said that when he ioined Cathay it had been considered a short-haul air-

line operating services to the Asian region."I am going to this job fresh but not without experience," he said. "It would be premature for me to trating on. I need to learn about the business, understand it and achieve a balance

National Westminster Bank Interest Rates

National Westminster Bank announces the following interest rates, effective from 7 February 1992:

| | Savings | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------|
| Net Interest per annum | | Gross Interest per annum | Gross C.A.R.† |
| } | Crown Reserve | | |
| | 3 Months' notice | | |
| 7.31% | £25,000 and above | 9.75% | 10.11% |
| 7.13% | £10,000 - £24,999 | 9.50% | 9.84% |
| 6.84% | £2,000 — £9,999 | 9.125% | 9.44% |
| | Premium Reserve | | |
| | Instant Access | . ! | |
| 6.94% | £25,000 and above | 9.25% | 9.58ኤ |
| 6.75% | £10,000 - £24,999 | 9.00% | 9.31% |
| 6.47% | £2,000 — £9,999 | 8.625% | 8.91% |
| | Special Reserve | | |
| 1 | Instant Access | | |
| 5.44% | £25,000 and above | 7.25% | 7.45% |
| 5,06% | £10,000 - £24,999 | 6.75% | 6.92% |
| 4.97% | £2,000 – £9,999 | 6.625% | 6.79% |
| 4.59% | £500 – £1,999 | 6.125% | 6.27% |
| | First Reserve | | |
| | Instant Access | | . |
| 4.88% | £1,000 and above | 6.50% | 6.66% |
| 4.50% | £500 – £999 | 6.00% | 6.14% |
| 4.13% | £250 — £499 | 5.50% | 5.61% |
| 3.75% | £100 - £249 | 5.00% | 5.09% |
| 3,38% | £0 – £99 | 4.50% | 4.58% |
| | | | |

Where appropriate, Basic Rate Tax will be deducted from interest credited or paid (which may be reclaimed by resident non-taxpayers). Subject to the required registration form, interest will be paid gross.

Gross Compounded Annual Rate (CAR.) is the true annual return on your savings if the interest payments are retained in the account.

National Westminster Bank Plc 41 Lothbury London EC2P 2BP

.4.

qualify for refunds are children, pensioners and wives who are not in paid employment. Since last April, they have been able to register savings accounts for gross payment of interest. So far, 13 million accounts are receiving interest without

telephone 0800 66 0800.

deduction of interest. This probably accounts for half of the accounts held by the 15 million non-taxpayer savers, according to Francis Maude, the financial secretary to the Treasury, who launched the Taxback scheme yesterday. Children and pensioners may only be owed a few

Maude. Others could be

Dan-Air is facing what many within the aviation and

ing Cathay's high-quality reputation among European travellers won him what could prove to be one of the toughest jobs in the British aviation Mr James, who had originally said he would give up his

once a new chief exectuive ted that competition was say what we will be concenwas appointed but who has fierce. "I accept that we are from the brink of collapse, now agreed to stay on as riding into where the gunfire and outlined a business strat-chairman, said last night that is thickest and some areas are egy that would turn the struggling airline into profit within the next three years. The plan keting would help to push relied on the appointment of Dan-Air upmarket. Over the strug
Mr Olsen's experience in outside our control."

Passenger traffic, he said.

Passenger traffic, he said.

was generally assumed to grow at double the rate of sure that we remain viable."

operations or of charter routes and reducing the numsaid: "For the first time in our

P&P's declining fortunes so typify those of a company launched amid the hype of the fast-growth Eighties that the story would make a perfect case history to be written, carefully stored and read to the unwary when the next bull market arrives.

Chaired by the once-ubiq uitous Professor Sir Roland Smith, the shares hit a high of 245p 12 months after the 1987 crash but have since fallen on hard times.

Computer makers pile-them-high, sell-them-cheap approach in 1989 and 1990 butchered margins and hit distribution hard. P&P was forced into an abrupt change of tack; it went into maintenance and services.

As a result, the company

discontinued several manu-

facturer supply agreements. The cost of resulting writedowns is contained as a £1.98 million exceptional item that wiped out more than two thirds of profits. A rights issue at 185p in September 1990 met an understandably lukewarm response, and a profits warning a year later saw the shares back to 50p. News of a £711,000 annual pre-tax profit, against £13.1 million last time, prompted a 5p rise off rock bottom to 44p yesterday. The profits dive came after redundancies, stock

writedowns and higher staff P&P has a strong balance sheet with £10 million in the bank and has chosen to maintain the final dividend uncovered. That at least gives the shares a 13 per cent yield, assuming the payment is further maintained into the current year.

The company concedes that the new direction will take time to pay off in terms of earnings, despite a blue-



Hard fall: P&P, led by Professor Sir Roland Smith, saw its share price fall from 245p in 1988 to 39p

staff search for business. Forecasting future profits is a leap into the dark; the house broker. Hoare Govett, forecasts E3.5 million this year and £5 million next, putting the shares on a forward multiple of 10.5, but other brokers are warier and are holding their fire until there is further evidence of

progress.
The shares have strong long-term recovery potential, given that the company's survival is not in question. The market is not, however, going to dive in after the

losses suffered by bullish investors in the past. There seems little reason to climb back on board at once.

Senior Engineering WHEN it comes to ac-

quisitions, there is nothing the City likes more than predictability. So full marks to Senior Engineering, which added to its considerable presence in flexible tubing by buying Flexonics, reportedly America's biggest and best when it comes to making and

Apart from being compatible, Flexonics has the advan-tage of being profitable, despite the American recesdistributing tubes that bend. So logical is the commer-cial fit between the Chicagobased group and Senior's existing operations that sion. Operating profits in the there were mutterings that year to February last year were £2.8 million, while the Senior's advisers had been a little cautious on the pricing of the £26.6 million rights issue that pays for the £22 current year has seen profits of £2.4 million for the nine months to November. million purchase.

The pricing however, en-sured a smooth reception for

theoretical ex-rights price of

under 69p and well ahead of

the 58p issue price.

Assuming all goes according to plan. Flexonics brings with it only £3.3 million of debt, leaving Senior still effthe one-for-four issue, with ectively ungeared and well placed for further expansion. the existing shares sliding just 22p to 692p, ahead of a With Senior's own estimate of pre-tax profits of E18.1 million ahead of

last December, Plexonics should put the group on target for £22 million this year, with no dilution earnings. Having doubled in the past year, the shares -on a price/earnings multiple of 10 — look well underpinned.

Benson Group

THE rejuvenation of Benson Group, the once struggling West Midlands engineer, continues apace with an acquisition spree and a promised return to the dividend list for the first time since January 1990.

Benson, headed by Richard Phillips, a former Triplex Lloyd director, looks to have won attractive deals for itself in the £6.68 million acquisition of three engineering firms and a heater and iler company. The purchases will bring in almost £2 million of annual profits and put Benson in strong positions in its chosen specialist

The deals are being funded through a £6.65 million placing with clawback for existing shareholders, at 13p, offering only a marginal discount to the 13.5p market

Pre-tax profits for the six months to end-November are £225,000 and the company has said it will pay a nominal 0.1p dividend for the full

Profits for next year are forecast at £2.6 million, assuming no upturn in the economy, giving 1.5p of earnings. That puts the company on an attractive forward multiple of less than nine times earnings. The share price does not reflect the improved prospects for the company.

WORLD MARKETS

Blue chips drift on a lacklustre morning

New York — Blue chip shares made small advances in directionless late-morning trading. The Dow Jones industrial average, about two points ahead at 3,260, fluctuated in a 20-point range with no clear trend developing.

☐ Tokyo — The market was closed for a public holiday.

☐ Frankfurt — Shares gave back morning gains to end below Wednesday's closing levels after indecision smothered early optimism. The Dax index ended 5.49 points lower at 1.681.13. The index had risen above the key 1,700point level at the start of trading.

☐ Sydney — The all-ordinaries index fell 8.3 to 1,594.6

with turnover of about 25 million shares worth Aus\$51.7 million. Shares losing ground slightly led those gaining in price.

The mood is still bearish with strong negative sentiment in the share market and the bond market," said a broker at Bain Securities, the finance house.

□ Singapore - Shares closed generally higher ai-though some light profit-taking emerged in the late afternoon to pare the gains slightly in rather quiet trading, brokers said.

The Straits Times industrial index ended at 1.530.85. up 4.88 points from Monday's finish but below the day's high of 1.533.86.

Futures-linked buying nudges Nikkei ahead

- WALL STREET

Tokyo - Shares closed firmer on small-lot buying and futures-linked programs. Brokers said political and industry moves to prop up the market and reduce futureslinked volatility improved sentiment, but added that buying centred on smaller issues and lacked the energy for a decisive move ahead.

"The new rules on futures and options helped the market go up, but volume isn't going up at all," said Toran-obu Sugai of Lehman Brothers, the securities house. Fears of a fall are gone, but the problem of excess supply is going to remain until the fiscal year-end."

The Nikkei index was up 168.55 points or 0.77 per cent to 22,104.92, with an estimated 200 million shares traded. The futures-linked

computer trading programs lifted the market at the opening. In the first 15 minutes the Nikkei rose 170.55 points Wednesday's above 21,936.37 close. It meandered aimlessly for the rest of the day, peaking 348 43 points up in the late morning

A ruling party committee on Wednesday evening said it would soon draw up plans to revitalise the market, and the Osaka Securities Exchange announced temporary regulations on futures and options, including increased disclosure of trading details.

These moves have raised confidence about support on the downside, but whether people will keep on buying as the market rises is another problem," said Kenzo Doi, a market analyst at Kokusai

STOCK MARKET

BZW puts spotlight on top firms' accounts

THE accounts of leading companies have come under close scrutiny from BZW. where Bill Smith, equity strategist, will soon publish a review of company accounting practices, and the likely impact on earnings of adjusting to the new proposals before

Mr Smith had been hoping to publish the report later today, but it now seems that publication has been delayed. BZW's findings centre on the current treatment of deferred taxation and disposals. The report does not criticise the accounting policies of the companies concerned, but will show some of them in a less flattering light. BZW says it has not altered its investment policy with regard to any of the companies mentioned in the report

Whispers circulating in the market claim those most likely to be hit hard are Fisons. down 6p at 379p. British Airways. 4p lighter at 230p. P&O deferred, 1p cheaper at 427p, and Ladbroke, un-

changed at 208p.

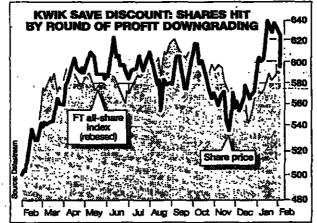
Cable and Wireless was also on the hit list, falling 13p to 580p. The shares had to contend with a profits down-

grading by BZW, which cut its forecast for the current year to March by £25 million to £695 million, and for 1993 by the same amount to £765 million. BZW maintains C&W's earnings quality continues to improve. The adjustment to the profit estimates is not related in any way to the alterations to accounting

procedures. The rest of the equity market spent another nervous session, with share prices continuing to drift on lack of support after the overnight set-back on Wall Street. Dealers reported only minimal selling pressure but said institutions had been generally apathetic for much of the week in the absence of any positive political and economic news.

A BZW buy programme enabled the market to stage a mid-morning rally, carrying the FT-SE 100 index briefly into positive territory. But it proved short-lived and by the close the index was nursing a fall of 12.8 to 2.534.3 on turnover of 546 million shares. Gilts had a lacklustre session, with the longer end

falling £4. Great Universal Stores enjoyed an early mark-up with the ordinary non-voting



shares climbing 90p to E19.25 and the A shares firming 2p to £14.30. Cazenove. the broker, has been singing the company's praises and yesterday afternoon Warburg

chisement of the two-tier voting structure. They were again left disappointed. -Kwik Save Discount, the food retailer, fell 36p to 594p after being hit by a volley of

BT ended the session 3 2p firmer at 334 2p and the partly paid 1 ½ p at 124p after some words of encouragement from Warburg Securities, the broker. The price was also boosted by the appearance of a large buyer seeking up to 10 million partly paid shares. This failed to be fully reflected in the turnover levels, suggesting that some of the business is

Securities played host to the company and a number of institutions. Fund managers had been hoping for news of the often discussed disenfran-

brokers' profit downgradings. Many of them had previously forecast pre-tax profits of about £123 million. James Capel did the early damage

after a presentation, reducing its estimate for the current year to £110 million. County NatWest cut its estimate earlier in the week and has since. been followed by BZW and Charterhouse Tilney. Tony Shiret, analyst at Credit Lyonnais Laing, is sticking with million but says Kwik Save is coming under increasingly competitive pressure, with Netto and Aldi, the German discount stores, selling below cost price. Stock losses are taking their toll and Mr Shiret expects profit margins to fall to between 2 per cent and 3 per cent long term.

Full-year figures from P&P, the computer products distributor, showed pre-tax profits collapsing from £13.1 million to £700,000 with the dividend held. This came as a pleasant suprise to the market, which had been forecasting a loss for the year. The shares responded with a rise of 4p to 43p. Hoare Govett, the broker, is forecasting profits of £3.5 million this year and £5 million for 1993.

Medeva was again benefiting from this week's presentation by Merrill Lynch, the securities house, to fund managers in New York, with

the price adding 9p to a new high of 292p. Further American buying of the shares is expected in the weeks ahead.

The car distributors continued to draw strength from the Monopolies and Mergers Gommission's report into new car prices in Britain. It is hoped the report will generate

AMF lac.

AMF lac.

AMR Cup ???

AMR Cup ???

Alman (61)

American (61)

American Herrican (61)

American (61)

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MICHAEL CLARK

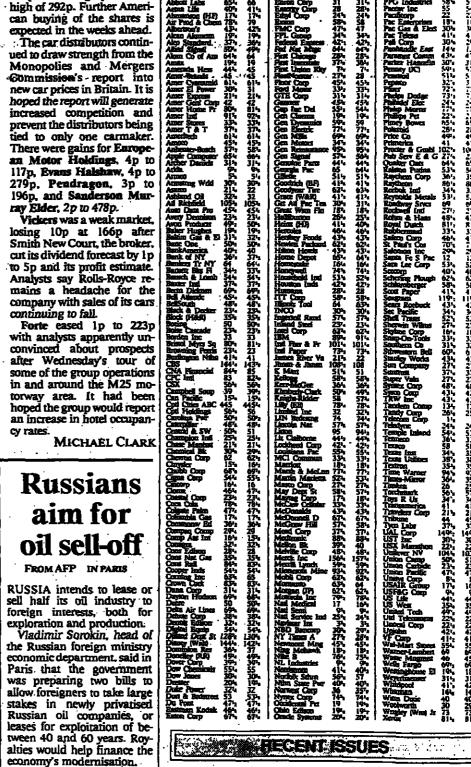
Russians aim for oil sell-off

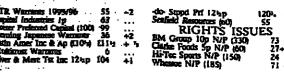
FROM AFP IN PARIS

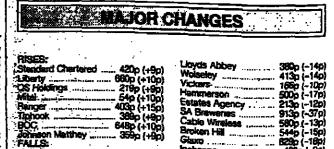
RUSSIA intends to lease or sell half its oil industry to foreign interests, both for exploration and production. Vladimir Sorokin, head of the Russian foreign ministry economic department, said in Paris that the government was preparing two bills to allow foreigners to take large stakes in newly privatised Russian oil companies, or leases for exploitation of between 40 and 60 years. Royalties would help finance the economy's modernisation. Alexander Mariashin, who

heads the Nenegasstroibank, a commercial bank responsible for overseeing the privati-sation of part of the Russian oil industry, said many private companies were being set up to end the state monopoly. Privatisation of the oil industry would take between three and five years, he said. On Tuesday, Vladimir Lopukhin, Russian energy minister, said Russia's oil

production had dropped from 568 million tonnes in 1988 to 450 million in 1991. Mr Sorokin also indicated that President Yelssin's threeday visit to France should allow for progress on a number of Franco-Russian economic projects, notably in the oil and gas industries.







Closing Prices. Page 25

KLM still hoping for a profit

KLM Royal Dutch Airlines maintained its forecast of "modest" profits for the year to March 31 as it announced a smaller than expected 8.6 million guilder (£2.7 million) loss for the third quarter. KLM said better trading

conditions, evident in the first half, had continued into the third quarter. The company lost 213.9 million guilders in the third quarter of the previ-The airline said the im-

provement was achieved through a higher load factor and better average returns, together with an average cost reduction of 8 per cent. Losses on investments.

mainly in foreign airlines including Northwest Airlines, in which KLM has a 20 per cent stake - rose to 87 million guilders from 70 million. Transavia NV, a charter airline in which KLM has an 80 per cent stake, was consolidated in the figures.

The results also included a 30.6 million guilder extraordinary gain, partly derived from the sale of a 49 per cent interest in KLM Helicopters. Analysts had forecast a loss of between 40 million and 70 million guilders for the quarter. KLM reported a 630 million guilder loss for the 1990-1 financial year.

Decision day on golden prospect looms large for RTZ and partner

The world's largest mining group faces a

March deadline for deciding whether to

develop a potential gold mine in Papua

New Guinea. Colin Campbell reports

RTZ, the world's largest min-ing company, must decide by mid-March whether it wants to develop the world's largest potential gold mine outside South Africa, or walk away from a deposit thought to contain more than 26 million ounces of gold.

RTZ is an 80 per cent shareholder in the Lihir Island gold deposit, Papua New Guinea, which it inherited by acquiring Kennecott through its acquisition of BP Minerals in January, 1989. RTZ's fellow shareholder is Niugini Mining, the Papua New Guinea-registered group that holds the remaining 20 per cent in Lihir and has wholly owned operating gold mines in Chile and North Queensland, Austra-

In May 1982, Geoff Loudon, chairman of Niugini, entered a joint venture with Kennecott. Ever since, it has been Mr Loudon's conviction that Lihir is worth developing and that the mine should be brought into production.

Lihir is big, fascinating, challenging and expensive. However, while Niugini has always been anxious that development should proceed at Lihir, RTZ — which would have to bear the lion's share of

development costs that could reach anywhere between \$700 million and \$1.14 billion - has been cautious.

Decision day looms. The original development project had a \$1.14 billion price tag, though the concept was scaled down last October to a less demanding figure. The current feasibility plan is for a mine that would produce 592,000 ozs of gold a year in the first five years of a conservatively estimated 36year life, and 349,000 ozs of gold a year over the rest of the mine's life.

The amount of gold poten-tially to be won from Lihir is estimated at between 16.4 million and 26.5 million ozs. The deposit falls into the "low grade" class and will require bulk tonnage movement of rock. Cash operating costs over the first five years are estimated at \$142 an ounce - against a current world gold price of about \$355 rising to \$204 an ounce over the life of the mine. Expansion from the scaled-down

plan towards the original, more ambitious, concept would be possible, given Lihir's extensive reserves. The government of Papua

New Guinea, anxious for foreign exchange and eager that employment opportunities be created, has given Lihir's partners until March 31 to submit a feasibility study. RTZ/Kennecott is finalising its financial and mining plan of the Lihir study, and a decision is likely to be made at RTZ's board meeting on March 11. If RTZ decides not to go ahead, it could lose its Lihir licence.

The government of Papua New Guinea has an option to take a stake of between 20 and 30 per cent in Lihir, thereby diluting the RTZ/-Niugini stakes. The latter would also have to arrange international finance for the project. Construction of the mine could start by year end. to put Lihir in production by the second half of 1995. A Lihir go-ahead would increase RTZ's attributable

million ozs, and raise RTZ's attributable gold reserves by 91 per cent to 27 million ounces. The pay-back period would be quick, and the min-ing team at Smith New Court estimates that Lihir would add 4p a share to RTZ's earnings on a gold price of \$365 an ounce, and 6p a share at a gold price of \$450.

gold production by 37 per cent from 850,000 azs to 1.2

Development of Lihir requires that substantial mining hurdles are overcome. RTZ/Kennecott, however, are masters of mining challenges and not known to proceed with a project unless they are satisfied that the mine will prove low-cost and give the group a dominant position in a particualr world metal. At Lihir, the ground water

in the mine area and the rock temperatures are extremely hot (above boiling point in parts), and would have to be cooled by water pumped from the sea before comfortable access to the workings could be achieved.

The pit would be below sea level, and thus need protection from water seepage. While the mountain behind the deposit would also have to be chipped away, the decision on Lihir may prove just as

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ION CHANGES

Forgetting the bid essentials

he hostile assault on James Wilkes by Petrocon was hardly a clash of corporate titans. But interest has been quickened by a swift and firm slap on the wrist by the Takeover Panel for all three corporate finance advisers then involved, including N M Rothschild, one of the City's blue-blooded merchant banks. Some discreet advance canvassing has become an accepted practice, to establish if there is even minimal support for a mooted takeover bid. In an excess of zeal Henry Cooke Corporate Finance and Smith New Court Corporate Finance went considerably further. Their claim of 30 per cent verbal support by Monday, when Petrocon's bid was finally announced, suggests that, allowing for a few dissenting voices, a sizeable chunk of the share register must have been in on the secret.

There are no prizes for guessing what the share price did next, and it is up to the Stock Exchange's insider dealing unit to decide if there were suspicious share dealings and if so, what action to take next. The panel has ruled that the two securities houses, which should have been particularly careful in such circumstances, breached the code by not consulting panel executives; they are duly criticised. Rothschild, because of what looks like a logistical problem, then failed to put out an announcement of the breakdown of talks between the two parties until the share price had shot ahead further, although the bank takes less of a caning from the panel.

Smith New Court and Henry Cooke still appear to be learning in such bid advice and should have done their homework better. As for Rothschild, it is tempting to wonder if takeovers are becoming so rare that even hardened professionals have forgotten what they are supposed to be doing. Clients and shareholders deserve better. Professionals should reacquaint themselves with the rulebook.

Thank you Lloyds

orwell Group's collapse is a reminder of how easily the sensitive relationship between a company and its bank can degenerate into warfare. Forwell's management blames Lloyds Bank for the company's failure, because Lloyds insisted that it reduce its debts and failed to support a rescue plan. Lloyds in turn believes it did everything it could to save the company, but was ultimately forced to call in its £1.4 million loan to protect its shareholders and depositors, although this precipitated the collapse.

Similar disputes are occurring across the country, resulting in receiverships, liquidations, job losses and losses to banks. In an increasing number of bigger cases, banks move Heaven and Earth to rescue a troubled company which has a viable core business. Most of the time they shrink from continuing high-risk capital to troubled businesses and feel obliged to calk in their Mans.

What makes Lloyds's behaviour in this case disgraceful are the letters sent to two of Formell's staff on January 27, while it was still trying to formulate a rescue plan. These said the company was bankrupt. The mistake stemmed from a misunderstanding in one of Lloyds's branches and the bank has apologised. But these irresponsible letters shattered morale in Forwell's offices and effectively killed any hope of deliverance.

Almost 50,000 companies went into receivership or liquidation in Britain last year, with devastating effects on the banks' balance sheets. The banks need to treat surviving businesses with care, for their own sakes as well as the economy's.

Cresson takes the bull by the horns in picking IBM as France's partner

The Bull-IBM deal was

a nimble piece of

business and political footwork by the French prime minister, argues **Wolfgang Münchau**

nere used to be a saying in the computer industry that "nobody ever got fired for choosing IBM". Edith Cre-sson, the French prime minister, must have remembered that when she chose IBM, and not Hewlett-Packard, the apparent front-runner. as a strategic partner for Groupe Bull, the French state-owned computer maker.

The deal, under which IBM takes a stake in the electronics group, amounts to a rare coup for the stumbling Cresson government, de-spite widespread and justified doubts about her ambitious industrial policy, and especially her seemingly quixotic quest to sort out the mess in which the French stateowned electronics industry has landed itself. A genuinely good business deal always serves more than one purpose, and this appears to be so with the latest Bull deal.

For IBM, the big attraction is the prospect of gaining access to the lucrative government procurement market. There also exists at present a tough battle between various comnter standards, and it is crucial for IBM to lure as many competitors as possible into its own technological camp. In return for these benefits, IBM was prepared to be generous. It will invest about \$100 million, perhaps more, for a stake in Bull of between 5 and 10 per cent, but for IBM this is only a token gesture to show "commitment".

For Bull the deal brings access to IBM's second-generation technology, technology it failed to develop in the Eighties, and which it now has no chance of catching up on without outside help. Mme Cresson, true to age-old Gallic fears of the East, was notably sniffy about an earlier deal to bring in Japan's NEC as a shareholder.

For her government, the latest move, along with a host of others involving IBM, Apple Computer, Hewlett-Packard, and SGS Thomson; the Franco-Italian computer: maker, is the second most important step in the restructuring of France's electronics industry. The first bigreshuffle came in December with the announced merger of the Thomson electronics group and the stateowned nuclear energy group into a giant holding company to be called Thomson-CEA.

Mme Cresson's decision to chose a private sector partner, and espe-cially IBM, rather than Hewlett-Packard — which, according to some industry insiders, would have offered a technologically superior deal — shows French industrial policy at its most Machiavellian, not



No more chauvinists: Edith Cresson and Francis Lorentz are happy to choose IBM nese. That is not my problem. I like

least because of the European

For Sir Leon Brittan, the European competition commissioner, it might have more frustrating implications. Sir Leon is looking at a promised Fr6.6 billion French govemment package, made up of new capital and research subsidies, aimed at helping Bull to escape its predicament. He is no friend of French state subsidies, and this deal will make it harder for him to raise objections against what many people in the industry would regard as an unfair state subsidy.

The commission uses the privateinvestor test as a benchmark for its decisions: if a private investor -IBM in this case — participates in a capital increase, then, so the argument goes, the action must be justidoes not constitute a hidden subsidy. The commission would find it very difficult to prove that the French government is subsidising Bull, even if superficially this app-

ears to be the case.

For the rest of Europe, the deal marks an end to hopes — or fears — that there exists a wholly indigenous European solution to the difficulties

Siemens ridiculed the European idea from the outset, and announced last year that it has struck a deal with IBM over the joint production of a 16-megabit chip. An agreement to develop a 64-megabit chip had already been in place.

The change in French attitudes towards so-called European solutions is subtle, though unmistakeable. Francis Lorentz, chairman of Bull, said that last year he had proposed to Carlo De Benedetti, president of Olivetti, and to Siemens, of Germany, a joint venture company aimed at exploiting the upper and most profitable segment of the market. "But nothing happened,' he said.

may be, M Lorentz believes, that we have the wrong idea about what is meant by European industry. "European means to have one or several decidevelop European competence, to have high value-added business," he said. "To do that, you need research centres. All of us have to work closely with the Americans and the Japanese. However, if the decision centre is moving from one country to another, the companies will not have the same value-added, and the

same know-how base." The bottom line for M Lorentz is ownership. European means major-ity owned by Europeans. Hence, he argues that "ICL has become Japafear is that IBM might behave like a computer virus, which starts unnoticed, ending up corrupting and destroying the entire system. Whatever the merits of these alliances, companies such as Bull often have little choice. From Bull's point of view, the most important aspect of this alliance is not the symbolic equity injection, but the cost-saving to be realised through joint production and, by far the most important, the access to IBM's second-generation technology, used mainly in workstations — the only growing segment of the market. These workstations are based on a technology that goes by the name of Risc. or reduced instruction set computing. a technique that uses fewer instructions to a microprocessor, thereby speeding up the performance of a

ull has failed to develop its own Risc technology, and has instead opted for a Risc technology based on the widely avaivable Mips chip, which is supported by the Advanced Computing Environment (ACE), a consortium of over 40 computer makers. This consortium includes

Bull, but not IBM, HP or Apple. In commercial terms, the difference between these systems is that IBM's or HP's proprietary Risc technology is more "up-market" than that of Mips in that it is expected to command higher profit margins. Both IBM and HP are developing their own technology. but there exists a body of opinion which holds that HP's Risc technology is superior to IBM's. HP has another advantage in that its market share of workstations in Europe

is greater than that of IBM. For Bull, however, the IBM deal offers additional attractions, not least the opportunity to participate in the most strategic of alliances yet struck in this industry: the co-operation deal struck last year between IBM. Motorola, the chip maker, and Apple, IBM's erstwhile archrival and now apparently one of its closest allies.

From these considerations, one might conclude that competition in this industry is not merely between companies, but between groups of companies that share technologies, and that the make-up of such alliances is prone to change.

Michael Armstrong, head of IBM's international trade business. said that no single company, howalone. IBM recognised this trend some time ago yet it remains the world's largest, and also Europe's largest, computer maker, despite its much-reported financial problems. In Britain alone, the company has a turnover of £4 billion, dwarfing any-

Most important, the IBM-Bull alliance is a welcome departure from old-fashioned French industri-al policy, which has finally recog-nised that even the Paris version of Euro-chauvinism has its limits.

THE TIMES CITY DIARY



Murray to mint it for Hill AFTER a year of sackings

and financial woe, Hill Samuel, the TSB's merchant banking arm, finally seems to be getting things right. It has found a new vice-chairman in Murray Stuart, deputy chairman of the Audit Commission and one of Britain's most able business leaders. Stuart, who stepped down as chief executive of Berisford International in December and is a past chairman of MB Group, takes up his new role on February 18 and plans to devote a third of his time to Hill Samuel's affairs. In particular he will be helping Richard Heley, head of corporate finance, drum up some new business -- something the bank could use after crashing to a loss of £419 million in the year to October 1991, the worst such fall in British merchant banking history. Lack of money was not in evidence when Hill Samuel held its annual dinner for financial editors in London last night. The site chosen for the feast was Spencer House, ancestral home of the Princess of Wales, and a venue that does Far-sighted not come cheap.

Deals on wheels

COULD it really be a year and a half since the European Commission's answer to meals on wheels, the mobile information unit or MIU, was unveiled in a blaze of publicity outside Westminster? The MIU, little more than a caravan stocked with electronic gadgets and linked to Brussels by satellite, set out on a gospel-like mission to explain the single market to unsuspecting villagers in the norm of England. Even sequences for his dialogue though representatives of the with the captains of British north of England. Even



trade and industry department and Foreign Office were at Westminster to see the van, sponsored by Ernst & Young, the accountant, on its way it escaped being wheel-clamped, to the disappointment of photographers present — nothing was subsequently heard of it ... until now, that is. It seems that the Law Society has dragged the van back out of obscurity to appear in a series of roadshows planned for March and April. Solicitors, it says, will be able to learn about dealing with the EC and the single market Can't wait.

TIM Sainsbury, minister for trade, has discovered a novel use for the Canary Wharf skyscraper in London's Docklands. His new office on Victoria Street, just across the road from the local Sainsbury branch, commands a panoramic view of London's landmarks, including the distinctive Canary Wharf obelisk. It seems that he finds the monument to Olympia & York's enterprise very useful for judging the quality of air in the capital. Indeed, the presence of smog may have dire conindustry. For he jokingly suggests starting a semaphor network to communicate with other high risers such as John Banham, the CBI director general, whose Centre Point headquarters is well in the sights of the DTI.

Glass winners

LALIQUE, the French family-owned crystal company with headquarters in Paris's Rue Royale, has struck a deal with the organisers of the Winter Olympics, which open in Albertville tomorrow. Not only is it providing the games with the 330 medals to be distributed during the two-week event but has broken with Olympic tradition by making them out of crystal. The new-style medals are engraved with a mountain perspective and fringed by gold, silver or bronze. Lalique will not disclose the quantity of fine gold and pure silver used, the price per medal struck with the Olympic Committee, or details of its annual financial results. But the deal cannot hurt profits at the company, which relies on exports for 80 per cent of its earnings, employs 600 people and has shops in London, Frankfurt, New York, Singapore, Hong Kong and Osaka.

lrons out The high level of redundancies at BP - where 3,000 jobs are to go this year - has led to the revival of an old joke that did the rounds in the City after the 1987 stock market crash when jobs were being lost left, right and centre. Question: What do you call an optimist at BP? Answer: Someone who keeps five shirts in their cupboard on

BUSINESS LETTERS British Gas's conservation trust needs a political will to drive it

From the Director of the Association for the Conserva-tion of Energy

Sir, The announcement

(Business News, February 5) that British Gas is to set up a trust, to finance installation of £120 million p.a. worth of energy conservation measures into its customers' homes and offices, is welcome. It is made doubly so by the knowledge that the regulatory body, Ofgas, may be prepared to offer the company financial incentives to ensure the trust's success. Without these, there is every danger of such initiatives declining into mere public relations gestures, intended to encourage fuel switching rather than energy saving. It is the profligate use of

fossil fuels which has led to the world's most pressing environmental threat, global warming. Numerous studies

Prophet and loss From Mr Joshua Vanneck

Sir, Valuing intangibles on extrapolated past results is neither prudent nor cautious. In the future, when reported losses occur, investors and hankers will have the added alarm of sudden write-downs in intangible assets.

Surely this is a "fair weather" concept which imprudently ignores the downside 'storm" scenario. To conclude: predictions into the future really belong

in the chairman's and direc-

tors' reports. Auditors quite rightly prophesy that a company is a "going concern" into the short-term future, but prophecy is not an exact science and does not deserve the credibility of a place in the balance

Yours faithfully. JOSHUA VANNECK. 69 Barrons Way. Comberton. JON ASHWORTH | Cambridge.

have demonstrated the poten-tial for the developed world drastically to reduce energy consumption by improving efficiency, whilst still improving living standards. All that is required to achieve this is sufficient political will, to-

gether with appropriate in-

centives for the purveyors of pollution to assist in the For the first time in Britain, we now have the potential to introduce such incentives. Both Ofgas and British Gas are to be congratulated upon their achievements. All that remains is to ensure that there is sufficient political will behind the trust to ensure that it succeeds.

ANDREW WARREN. Association for the Conservation of Energy.

Yours faithfully,

Shares and power

From Major R.N.B. Freeman Sir, A number of letters from your readers over the last few weeks has emphasised the powerlessness of the private shareholder.

Surely what is needed from the prime minister is a private shareholders' charter. After all, he has encouraged us to go into Peps, where we have to pay to vote on the shares we hold, and into pension plans, where we get no vote at all.

It appears the Conservatives

£5,000+

£10.000+

£30,000+

have encouraged a powerless shareholding democracy. You gave the people the shares, now give them the power! Yours faithfully. MAJOR R.N.B. FREEMAN. 34 Whitelands Avenue, Chorleywood. Buckinghamshire.

Letters to The Times Business and Finance section can be sent by fax on 071-782 5112.

NEW RATES FROM THE CHESHIRE

the people, they do good work. But

they can't say they are Europeans."

backdrop of severe difficulties for the

whole industry. Excepting ICL.

none of the indigenous European

computer companies is making any

money. Last year, computer sales

were down by 7.8 per cent world-

wide, according to Dataquest, an

American consultancy. Why that

should be so is not quite as obvious

as it seems. The recession, the usual

excuse for failure, can at best offer a

partial explanation. The computer

industry has also become victim of

its own technological success. The

market may have grown strongly

throughout the Eighties, but the

growth of technology has out-

stripped demand, and costs, espe-

In other industries this would

have led to concentration. Not so

here. The computer industry might

be one of the most competitive, but it

is also one of the least hostile. The

approach is co-operative, at least on the surface. Of all the computer

makers, there is nobody more expert

at this game than IBM.
Signor De Benedetti said this

week that he, too, had been ap-proached by IBM, but he rejected

IBM's plans, which he considers a

have escalated.

research and development,

All these events occur against a

FOR ACCOUNTS NO LONGER AVAILABLE

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INTEREST RATES FROM 7TH FEBRUARY 1992

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| £25.000+ | Monthly | 9.75% | 7.31% | THRIFTY SAVERS | Annually | 5.50% | 4.13% |
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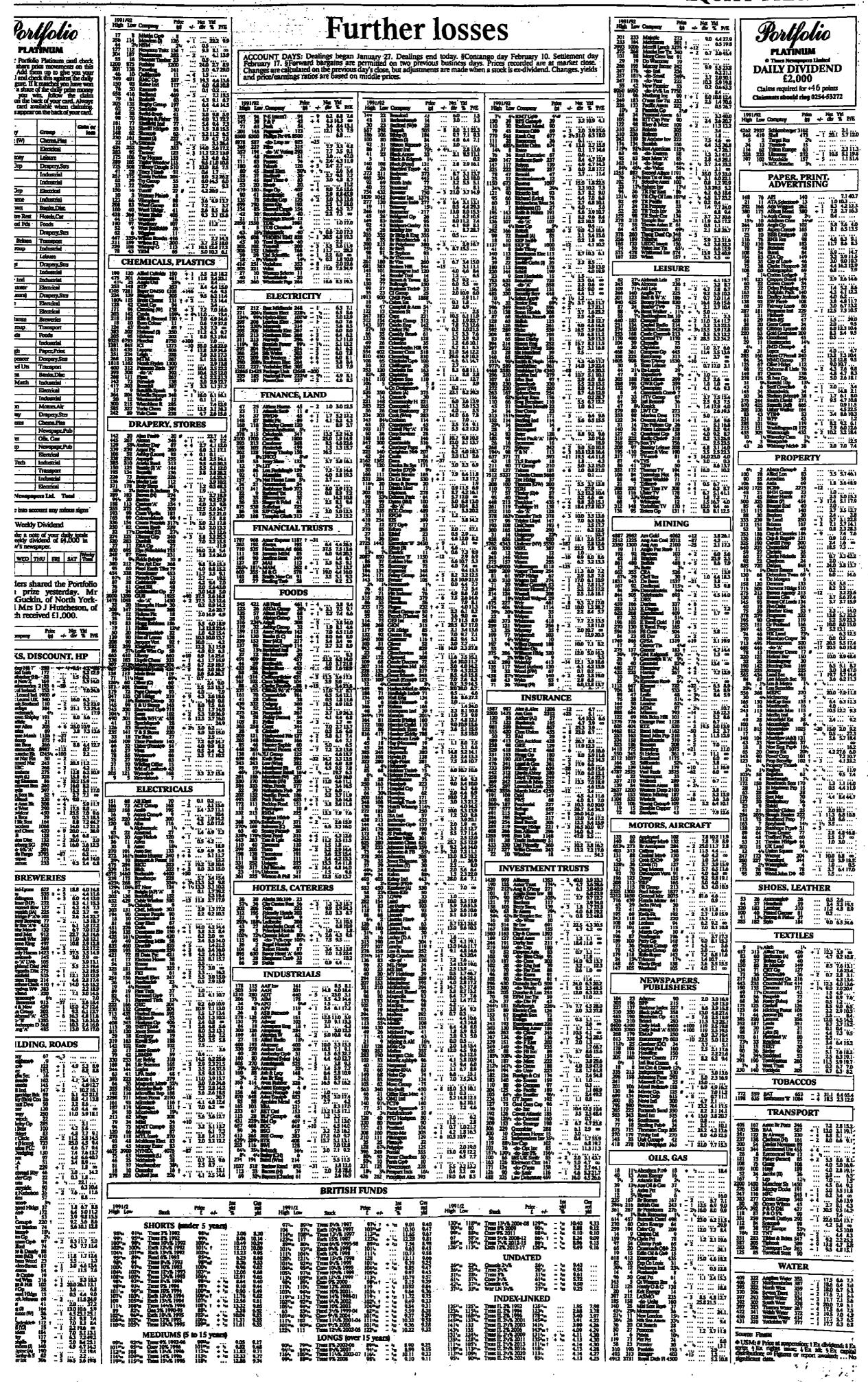
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How I got where I am today

Kyoshi Watano is a board member of Alps, a \$3 billion global electronics firm. He also heads a United Kingdom workforce of over 600 people manufacturing and exporting high technology electronic components to customers throughout Europe. How did he get where he is today? He successfully developed his manufacturing operations in a city with the most advanced telecommunications in Britain. Where European markets are easily reached by rail, air and sea. And where 25 million people live within a 2 hour drive. If you'd like your company to get somewhere, ring Bob Hill, Commercial Director Milton Keynes Development Corporation, on (0908) 692692.



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INFOTECH TIMES

What price help on the move?

feel more secure telephone, especially when driving alone. A recent Gallup survey for Motorola claims that 73 per cent of people feel safer when carrying a cellular telephone. For women the figure is 97 per cent. Half those interviewed said that when driving alone they had experienced an incident in which a cellular telephone would have

The Suzy Lamplugh Trust has introduced a scheme to provide mobile communications at concessionary subscription rates for use in emergencies, and the Automobile Association has similar plans to help drivers who feel themselves at risk.

Other research also indicates there is a tremendous suppressed demand for mobile telephones - suppressed

The price of the telephones is no longer the hurdle it once was, but subscription costs are prohibitive. An adequate hand portable can cost less than £200 and the price of car telephones is even lower.

A top-range model, howev-er, can still be expensive: Motorola's pocket phone to be announced soon will cost more than £600.

Nor is the cost of the calls a deterrent: these range from a peak 33p a minute within the greater London area down to the cheap rate of 10p a

Many potential customers are being held back by an annual subscription fee of £300, plus VAT. These charges are specified by the two cellular telephone operators, Cellnet and Vodasone. The total bill for an average Cellnet customer, for example, is £60 a month.

Customers cannot deal directly with either operator but must use one of about 60 airtime retailers, who act as intermediaries. Although these retailers may vary some of the charges, prices are unlikely to be any cheaper on average and may, well be

The eventual answer is be personal to

The cost of mobile phones is inhibiting use in areas of urgent demand. Matthew May reports

communications networks (PCNs) — a new type of system expected to provide mobile telephones for about half the cost of the presentcellular network telephones, although none of those planning services will comment on what price levels they expect to set.

In a recent survey by one of three companies planning to launch a PCN. Unitel gave 400 people, both ordinary householders and small businesses, a hand portable connected to the existing cellular networks but charged them as if they were using a PCN.

The conclusion was that if mobile telephones were available at that price tomorrow.

million more users to the existing 1.3 million who use the cellular networks. Unitel promises it will have

PCN ready to start by mid 1993 that could reach 25 per cent of the population and is likely to cover the area inside the M25, London's orbital motorway. Some telecommunications experts, however, doubt that anything more than a pilot service will be in operation before 1995.

PCNs require investment of more than £1 billion, and both the recession and the disastrous failure of Telepoint, which was meant to provide Britain with a world first in cheap mobile telephones, have made

only to call either the AA for roadside assistance or the emergency services. The AA says the new service should be available by the

will be few of them.

The cost is still high, however. The unit will be about £200, plus a rental of £10 a month, and although calls will be free it is hoped there

In October, Phonepoint,

the last of the three telepoint services, was switched off. It

had attracted only 800 users

and like the other services was

hampered by being unable to take incoming calls and by the need for customers to be

within 100 yards of a base

station before the telephone

Only one licensed operator,

Hutchinson Personal Com-munications, is still planning

a telepoint network and hop-ing to overcome the problem

unable to receive calls by

linking them to a pager. The

system, however, will still require users to be in range of

Last week the AA an-

nounced plans for an emer-

gencies-only telephone that

operates over the Vodafone

cellular network and plugs into a car's cigarette lighter.

The telephone can be used

telepoint phones being

could be used.

a base station.

his looks poor value compared with a scheme being run by one airtime retailer, Ford Cellular, in association with Motorola and the Suzy Lamplugh Trust.

personal safety package, re-works the usual charges for mobile telephones to appeal to those who want a mobile phone largely as a precaution against the unexpected and are less concerned about call The monthly subscription is reduced from £25 to £10

but call charges increase to a standard 39p a minute with no cheap rate. The offer is open to any-

body wherbuys a Motorola telephone through Ford Celhular. These range from a car telephone at £150, a hand portable at £269 or a pocket telephone at £400.



The soul of tact: Basil Fawlty (John Cleese) might benefit from computer lessons in handling rude customers

to you? While manufacturers struggle to make their machines more userfriendly, Richard Margetts, a catering lecturer at Granville College, in Yorkshire, has developed a program that positively encourages the computer to be nasty to-

wards its operator.

The software, called Custom, has been funded by the employment department's learning technologies unit. and is designed to help hotel and catering trainees to cope with customers' complaints. Such complaints can make or break a business.

The idea for the program grew out out of an unpleasant evening Mr Mar-getts and his wife had at a hotel. In a scene that could have come from Fawlty Towers, the BBC television comedy series, the couple were left standing in the hotel lobby while the receptionist continued making a personal telephone call.

During the meal they were ignored by the waiter and had to order their drinks at the bar and carry them back complained to the manager who sympathised but said it

There's a fly in my software

A computer program trains waiters by simulating restaurant complaints

was difficult to train staff in identify the complaints that

customer care. "Britons are very complacent about complaints," says Mr Margetts, who used to run his own restaurant. Good service is not seen as being very important."

Hence the computer based training package. The first part analyses how complaints arise. The complaints include those from the few customers who go to a restaurant determined to make a fuss, perhaps in the bope

of a free meal.

Mr Margetts says: "Within the program we have included ways of spotting those complaints, and those that can arise because of a had experience somebody has staurant. Mr Margetts says: "The "The program will also idea is that the trainee sees restaurant.

The computer then sug-gests successful ways of tack-

can occasionally arise

merely from customer bore-

dom. Somebody may have

decided he cannot stand his

dining companion, for exam-

ple, and takes his unhappi

ness out on the food or the

The waiters assemble a

customer profile. "How am

dressed—shabby, average or immaculate?" the computer asks. "Is my accent local or

non-local? Do I speak perfect

English or might I be a tourist? Am I alone or with a

group? Is it a mixed-sex group? What is my age

bracket? How much alcohol

do I seem to have drunk?"

unfortunate waiter."

indicator of how a customer will respond during a com-plaint, whereas attitude and alcohol are much stronger. In the second part of the

that personal attributes such

as accent or dress are a weak

program, the computer be-comes less than friendly. The trainee takes part in role-play simulations in which the mputer acts like a com plaining customer. The computer can be pro

grammed to be angry, rude reasonable or rambling. The trainee's task is to recognise the warning signs and calm the situation.

At the end of a session trainees are told how many attempts it has taken to reach the correct response. The results are saved for the

But although the program uses graphics and text to good effect, it cannot yet convey complex factors such as the customer's tone of voice, body posture or facial expression. Future versions may use video pictures and sound for greater realism. However, Mr Margetts says there are no plans to incorporate a robot arm that

Please tick here the category in which you will be entering:

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Individual 🔲 🏻 School 🗀

GEORGE COLE

News of your choice

Warm tones: women feel safer with mobile phones

device that will autoselect items of interest from the masses of information broadcast daily by television and teletext has been developed by British

electronics engineers.
Micro Eye TV1 will allow users, from business people and researchers to journalists and hobbyists, to make more efficient use of the air waves. The device, a decoder or intelligent card, is the brainof engineers at Digithurst, a company in Royston, Hertfordshire.

For capturing pages of teletext, users program the card to search for words, or a series of words, relating to topics of interest. The system then scans the pages for the trigger words, which, if spotted, are downloaded into the decoder. Up to 255 pages can be collected at a time.

Meanwhile, an alert is triggered on the user's perA new device will sift information from television and teletext

in a small window on one side of the screen. This allows a user to scan the pages the card has selected before either discarding or transferring some into the computer, depending on their suitability.

Peter Kruger, Digithurst's managing director, says: "It can also be programmed to take a few pages that you know always carry, say, busi-ness news or politics."

The technique for automatically recording television programmes that feature items of interest works in a similar way. The decoder comes with an infra-red set, allowing the card to be programmed by a video recorder's own handset.

Effectively the card is taught the features of the

the Barcelona Olympics this

summer will stimulate sales

because big sporting events are good at showing the benefits of high-definition

Analysts believe the market

will not take off, however, until prices fall below £2,000.

Banknotes in Belgium may

video recorder, such as play, fast forward, record and channel selection by the video's handset. Once this has been done, the card can be

tion up to 100 key words. Mr Kruger says: "Some people might program in the words 'fish' or 'water pollution' because they are inter-ested in marine life. Others may be interested in gardening and might program in flowers, floral, tree or even 'Dutch elm disease'."

programmed to scan for tele-

vision broadcasts that men-

The decoder can be programmed to switch off after a set time and switch to standby, ready to record when the next interesting word is broadcast. It can also be programmed to stop recording a programme if a key

word is not mentioned again after a certain length of time. Use of the device, which costs £495 including its software, is limited to broadcasts that carry Ceefax subtitles. Only a small proportion of broadcasts, such as the news, carry sub-titles, but the level is likely to increase in the com-

ing years.

Mr Kruger says the company, which will show MicroEye TVI for the first time at the CeBit computer fair in Hanover next month. had considered developing a decoder that could be triggered by key spoken words.

"We do not believe you can make a practical product at the moment," he says. "With teletext, words come up that do not rely on inflexions of speech or people coughing in the middle of sentences. However, it will happen in a matter of a few years."

NICK NUTTALL

become the standard-senter for the emerging technology of reduced instruction set computing (Risc). The technology simplifies

computer processors, allowing them to run faster and is widely used in desktop workstations, the fastest-growing part of the computer market. IBM faces fierce competition in this area from Hewlett Packard and Sun Microsystems, over which Risc systems will become the industry standard.

EC steps in

The European Commission wants to give online computer databases throughout the EC copyright protection for ten years by standardising with the sort of protection for systems now used in Denmark and other Scandinavian nations. The commission is propos-

ing protection not only for written texts but also for statistics, catalogues and other tabulations not yet covered by existing copyright law in many community countries. The commission says that

electronic databases are the library hypermarkets of the future. The databases will contain factual data, as well as literary and other artistic works, which are already protected against illegal



SE8 5BP, for full details and an Entry Form.

Cheaper picture

The price of high definition television sets has tumbled since Sharp announced that in May it will sell a 36in HDTV set in Japan for £4,500, almost a quarter of the present price.

The usual price, about £17,000, has effectively limited sales to business and hotels. HDTV programmes, whose crystal-clear pictures match the quality of cinema film, are now broadcast in Japan for eight hours a day.

Sharp says the price cut has been achieved by reducing the number of chips used in each set. The new set also has a cathode ray tube that is cheaper to manufacture but sacrifices some clarity. Manufacturers are hoping seize up.

Bank check

carry a code to prevent photocopying. The quality of the latest colour photocopiers is so good that forgers are often forsaking more conventional methods of counterfeiting. The Belgian central bank

told De Standaard that it is negotiating with manufacturers to include a device in photocopiers that will recognise the code and make them

Compag switch on Lite Just announced: COMPAQ LTE Lite/20

and LTE Lite/25 notebooks. Ultra lite and 386SL power, elephant-size disk. Battery-with-brain allows 41/2 hours mains-free use. Neat expansion base option transforms Lite into

desktop heavyweight. Our Holborn Inptop centre has full info. MORSE 78 High Holborn, London WCI, 071-831 0644 17 Sheen Lane, Mortlake SW14. 081-876 0404

City says will work anywhere in the world, will store faxes for up to 72 hours.

> IBM's decision to buy between 5 and 10 per cent of Groupe Bull, the French computer company, will give it a useful ally in its efforts to

Less risk

Fax tracks

People wanting faxes while

they are out and about can

now receive them from any

nearby machine. Inter City

Paging has started a service

whereby faxes can be sent to a

personal fax number, where

they are received and stored

by a central computer and an

alert sent out to the customer

by radio pager. The user finds

the nearest fax machine and

enters a personal retrieval

The service, which Inter

number and the fax is sent.

Learning more about Europe

BY SALLY WATTS

WHAT is most helpful for small businesses needing to learn more about trading in the single Euro-pean market? Some possibilities are lunch clubs, workshops and seminars, newsletters and advice via a central phone-in. The question was explored in a recent survey of more than 1,000 Surrey firms before the launch of a service to help small businesses in the area come to terms with the challenges of the single market.

A phone in service proved a popular idea, aimed at giving answers where possible and, where not, pointing small business owners to sources of advice. Short. early-evening seminars were also favoured.

Both services will be introduced when an "Impact Europe" project starts up at Epsom on February 11. Wendy Gill, the project manager, said: "Probably, 90 per cent of businesses in this area have fewer than 25 employees. Many don't know where to go for information. We want to create a friendly level prop in centre?" friendly, local pop-in centre."

The survey was conducted by North East Surrey College of Technology. The new project, in partnership with Surrey University, will provide Pickup Europe activities. Pickup, which means professional, industrial and commercial updating, was set up by the education department to support colleges offering services to business. Britain has some regional Pickup Europe centres. The latest, Polytechnic South West, Plymouth, which is partnered by three other colleges, opened last autumn. It covers Avon, Cornwall, Devon, Dorset, Gloucestershire, Somerset and Wiltshire. More details: Impact Europe,

Longmead Road, Epsom KT19 9BH; telephone: 081-394 3267. Pickup Europe, Polytechnic South West, Drake Circus, Plymouth PL4 8AA; telephone: 0752 232374.

MR FRIDAY



"How is it that the less business there is the longer hours you have to work?"

The sweet taste of success

IMPORTING can be particularly difficult for newly formed small businesses, with barriers popping up at both ends of the line. Buckingham Candy, a confectionery company, demonstrates how these can be overcome. Buckingham, despite its name, is based in Harpenden, Hertfordshire.

The title was picked because it conveyed the image of a high-class product and not for geographical reasons. Juliana and Brian Goldenberg set up four years ago as wholesalers, importing American chocolates. Mrs Goldenberg is an

chocolates. Mrs Goldenberg is an American while her husband comes from Liverpool.

Mrs Goldenberg says: "I was just walking along thinking about lots of things and I suddenly got the idea of supplying something that was not available here."

The task was dauguing The f2 2

The task was daunting. The £2.2 billion wholesale confectionery market in the UK is dominated by big players such as Nestle, Mars and Cadbury. Neither of the Goldenbergs had experience in the product, in selling or importance. However, they felt there was a because if the importance in the product of the importance of the importance. chance if the imports were high quality. The first problem was in persuading UK retailers to stock the chocolates.

Mrs Goldenberg says: "When we first started the retailers said What do we want American sweets for? They are low quality.' It was difficult to get into the first shop. Everyone wants to see your track record."

High levels of import duty were



ments and see the suppliers. They

pay individual bills over there in

dollars and we make one big

Despite the early barriers, the Goldenbergs have built up Buck-

ingham to an annual turnover of

more than El million. They buy

from ten manufacturers, all pro-

ducing high quality confectionery.

and have more than 500 lines.

transfer of funds."

Beating the barriers: Juliana and Brian Goldenberg of Buckingham Candy another worry, but, as Mrs Goldenberg is American, she was able to secure an American export grant. In America, there was the difficulty of persuading manufacturers to deal with an unknown

British company.
Mrs Goldenberg says: "They were reluctant to give credit to a foreign company. If we failed to make payments there would be the complication of international law. You need to have personal contact. We set up an American company They have also managed to gain

that my family helps to run. They acceptance by big stores groups consolidate orders, arrange ship-

such as House of Fraser. Mrs Goldenberg says: "We just went in and contacted the buyers. They are always looking for something new and when you break into that market everyone sees your product."

Buckingham now has a national network of sales agents, providing personal contact with retailers. It has outgrown its existing warehouse and will soon be moving to one three times as big.

BRIEFINGS

The contract catering industry is thriving despite the recession (Derek Harris writes). Contractors, typically supplying com-panies and other organisations, provided more than 650 million meals last year, a 7.5 per cent increase on the year before, according to the British Hospitality Association.

Contract caterers have been taking more market share - the number of outlets, at 10.400, is up nearly 11 per cent on the year Turnover has risen 41 per cent over three years. Inroads have been made particularly among local authorities and at the Ministry of Defence. A noticeable trend is for contract caterers to diversify into other support services cleaning, housekeeping, maintenance and laundry services.

[] In a survey by National West-minster Bank, six out of 10 property valuers forecast more ight commercial property coming on the market in the next quarter. Most valuers thought prices would stay static or fall. Greater London and the South-West are expected to see the biggest price falls.

☐ Business travellers are already finding Spain expensive in the run-up to Expo 92 in Seville, the Olympics in Barcelona and Madrid becoming European City of Culture. A survey by Export Times magazine shows that the average daily expenditure for a business traveller is £95 more in Madrid than in London.

EDITED BY DEREK HARRIS

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1 1420 TOM CLAPTON 35 (D.BF.F.G.S) M Pipe 5-12-0

2 5060 EMERALD RULER 22 F Jordan 5-11-10 T Protheroe (7)

3 0P-0 FRED FOR FUN 18 N SMIJI D-11-10
4 F2/4 JAMES MY 8DY 34 (G.S) W Clay 12-11-10
J Driscoti (7)
5 -PP0 HITCHENSTOWN 4 (8) M O'Neui 9-11-8
6 P-20 CREAM AND GREEN 22 K White 8-11-6
7 3335 PRIMATICE 10 (B.D.S) W G M Turner 5-11-6
P Carey (7)
8 6631 SHIKARI KID 20 (D.F) S Norton 5-11-6
P Carey (7)
9 LEGAL WIN 219F F Jordan 4-11-5 W McFartand
10 0-25 PEAK DISTRICT 25 (CD.S) K Bridgwater 6-11-4
D Bridgwater (3)
11 P-0F SMART PERFORMER 4 (B.D.G.S) N Tinkler 7-11-4
M HBF

4.20 TRIAL RUN NOVICES HANDICAP

1 4-11 MELICUS 21 (G.S) C Egerton 7-11-10 M 2 38-3 FIDDLERS THREE 31 (G.S) T Forster 9-11-3

3 -F25 ANOTHER DYER 25 (B,BF,S) G Richards 8-11-0

4 1USF RE-RELEASE 15 (D.BF,G,S) M Pipe 7-11-0 P Scudemore 5 842- BUDDINGTON 325 (BF,S) T Forsier 7-10-13 J Railton 6 4015 MEADOWVALE 21 (D,F) Jemmy Fitzgerald 7-10-12 W Dwan (7)

7 4P-P STIRRUP CUP 99 (BF,G,S) O Sherwood 8-10-12 A S Smith

CHASE (£2,883: 2m 4f) (16)

(£1,720: 2m) (20)

THUNDERER

2.30 Travel Over. 3.00 Kashan. 3.30 Chilhampton. 4.00 Jopanini. 4.30 Hawthorn Blaze.

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 4.30 HAWTHORN BLAZE.

1.30 ALDERMASTON NOVICES CHASE (£3,379: 2m 160yd) (7 runners)

BETTING: 11-8 Fragrent Dewn, 100-30 Stramana, 5-1 Far Over Struy, 8-1 Space Fair, 25-1 others.

1991: MEETING ABANDONED - FROST FORM FOCUS

N I: \$2,721: 2m 4f 120yd) (15 runners)

612 BARTON BANK 28 (S) (Mrs J Moudd) D Nicholson 6-11-11 R Durnwoody 88 14-42 ASHFOLD COPSE 21 (C.BF.G) (Mrs P Locke) G Harwood-6-11-6 M Perrett 99 0000 CANDY LAKE 29 (R Hawthorn) T Jones 6-11-6 P Ward (7) DO-P FISCAL RUN 15 (B) (G Giddy) P Hobbs 6-11-6 Peter Hobbs 6-11-6 P Ward (7) DO-P FISCAL RUN 15 (B) (G Giddy) P Hobbs 6-11-6 P R Supple 71 0 IDLING BY 118 (D Gandolfo D Gandolfo 6-11-8 B Powell DLING BY 118 (D Gandolfo D Gandolfo 6-11-8 B Powell D JASPER'S PALACE 34 (Dueensway Securities Ltd) K Burks 6-11-6 D Gallagher 6 ILLARNEY MAN 28 (A Webss) T Etherfagion 6-11-6 D Gallagher 6 ANDAIG 38 (Mrs S Wills) K Balley 6-11-6 J Osborne 88 4 SANDAIG 38 (Mrs S Wills) K Balley 6-11-8 A Tory 73 2 SAN FERNANDO 21 (Mrs S Embricos) J Gifford 6-11-8 D Matrphy 96 D/4 SHEER ABILITY 24 (The Secon House Pertnership) Mrs F Walwyn 6-11-6 B de Hean 70 P VICAR OF BRAY 43 (The Cleric Partnership) G Balcing 5-11-6 NON-RUNNER TING: 4-5 Ashibid Copse, 5-1 Barton Bank, 8-1 Sandaig, San Fernando, 16-1 First Design, 20-1 others.

BETTING: 4-5 Ashfold Copse, 5-1 Barton Bank, 8-1 Sandaig, San Famando, 16-1 First Design, 20-1 others.

FORM FOCUS

BARTON BANK nk 2nd of 15 to Coulton at Wetherby (2m 4f, soirt); previously beat Needwood Muppet 6i at Uttooseter (2m, heavy).

SHFOLD COPSE 1ke 2nd of 11 to Spinning at Kempton (2m, good to 11m); previously 5ki 4th of 13 to Beyton Star at Windson (2m, good); SANDAIG 201 4th of 10 to Sritton Land to Travado over same course and distence (good).

FIRST DESIGN 8i 4th of 14 to Miss Purbock at Selection: ASHFOLD COPSE

301 1P-1122 LATENT TALENT 39 (CD.8F,G.S) (C Heath) S Sherwood 8-11-10 J Osborne
302 P-3122U FIFTH AMENDMENT 29 (B.D.8F,F.G.S) (Mrs S Robins) Mrs J Pitman 7-11-8 M Pitman
303 U223-21 TRAVEL OVER 37 (G.S.) (Mrs C Feather) R Lee 11-11-7. A Maguire
304 U223-21 TRAVEL OVER 37 (G.S.) (Mrs C Feather) R Lee 11-11-7. R Survivi

304 1R/2512 ZETA'S LAD 28 (D.F.G.S) (Mrs D Upson) J Upson 9-11-8 R Supplie 305 321/211- GOLDEN FOX 458 (B.CD.F.G.S) (Mrs K Lyons) G Enright 10-11-4 M Perrett 306 36243F JOHN O'DEE 27 (D.F.G.S) (G Hubberd) F Murphy 9-10-12 J Kavanagh 307 01P201 SPLITTHEDIFFERIENCE 9 (D.F) (V Barclay) Mrs A Banday 8-10-4 (Bax) R Durawoody 308 21FF5-2 TOM TROUBADOUR 31 (F) (S Musson) J Gritord 9-10-2 G A Tory A LAD (NSANE 63 (F) (Miss S Wills) K Bailey 11-10-1 A Tory

BETTING: 7-2 Latent Talent, 4-1 Fifth Amendment, 5-1 Trevel Over, 7-1 Zeta's Lad, Golden Fox, 10-1 others.

FORM FOCUS

LATENT TALENT 3½: 2nd of 7 to Tipping Tim over course and distance (good); previously 1½: 2nd of 4 to Third in Line at Cheltenham (3m 11, good) of firm) where the remounted A LAD INSANE (14th better off) firmshed a cleatance 4th having held every chance when falling 5 cut; serifier beat TRAVEL. OVER (7th better off) 8i at Warwick (3m 1f, good). FIFTH AMMENDMENT nk 2nd of 9 to Redical Lady at Bangor (2m 4f, good to soft). ESTA'S LAD 51 2nd of 8 to Gambing Royal at Wetherby (3m 100yd.

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THUNDERER

4.10 Fit The Bill 4.40 Carousei Calypso.

1.40 WOLSINGHAM MAIDEN HURDLE (£1,170: 2m 4f) (18 runners)

See CALL KENTONS 65 (Kenton Utilities Ltd) Jimmy Ritzgereid 6-11-7....
DARK SEAM (W Stephenson) W A Stephenson 5-11-7....
BY GENERAL TROY 21 (L Heaven) J Edwards 6-11-7....
HALLO SENSATION (P Cookson) G Costsworth 5-11-7...
INDIAN RAIDER 30 (W Stephenson) W A Stephenson 5-11-7...
KILLULA CHIEF 79 (B Steveart-Brown) T Tate 5-11-7...
ON CUE 948F (Mrs K Lodge) Mrs V Acorley 5-11-7...
POPP ROCNEY 45 (Mrs K Lodge) Mrs V Acorley 5-11-7...
LADY VIOLET 50 (R Wheeler) G Moore 5-11-2...
5 TOPCLIFFE 37 (M Buck) Mrs V Acorley 5-11-2...
5 TOPCLIFFE 37 (M Buck) Mrs V Acorley 5-11-2...
CO HOTDIGGITY 13 (Lt-Col W Montatith) P Montalith 4-10-10...
CKIRIGHT OF HONOUR 25 (B) (M Dods) M Dods 4-10-10...
LISSES 22 NODDLE 25 (J Galbraith) L Lungo 4-10-10...

245522 NODDLE 25 (J Galbrain) L Lungo 4-10-10 R Minister 4-10-10 R Markey
4 ONE FOR THE CHIEF 28 (Mrs J Button) R Whitaker 4-10-10 S Turner
00 CELTIC BIZARRE 64 (C Nach) C Nach 4-10-5 V Donoghue (7)
TV PITCH 136F (D Lee) D Lee 4-10-5 R Garrity

BETTING: 2-1 Kiltula Chief, 5-2 Cali Kentons, 9-2 Explosive Speed, 6-1 Noddia, 8-1 Jendee, 10-1 General Troy, 14-1 One For The Chief, 18-1 others.

1991: MEETING ABANDONED - FROST

BETTING: 7-4 Penjuny, 4-1 Solo Saul, 5-1 Gymorak Gamble, 6-1 Belsastama, 8-1 Jusetski, 10-1 Charlycia, 14-1 Sovereign Niche, 16-1 others.

BETTING: 5-2 Chocksw. 4-1 Bng's Gazelle, 9-2 Snowline Chap, 11-2 Over The Dael, 8-1 Norton Warner, Valessy, 12-1 Old Nick, 25-1 York Impensi

2.10 STONEGRAVE AGGREGATES NOVICES CLAIMING HURDLE

(-O: £1,395: 2m) (13 runners)

100 SOLO SAIL 100 (D.F) (W G Black) J Johnson 11-10...
WATSON HOUSE 469F (Mrs C Smith) R Bestime: 11-7...
081 PERJURY 28 (D.S) (D Eddy) D Eddy 11-4...
5 BELSALAMA 21 (C MacMitan) G Moore 11-3...
P00 ELVETT BRIDGE 41 (A Crampton) D Franks 11-3...
244 GYMCRAK GAMBLE 4 (V) (M Essierby) M H Easterby 11-1...
000046 SOVEREIGN NICHE 20 (N Miles) N Miler 10-11...
0354 JULIETSKI 36 (S Brankin) M Hermond 10-10...
0225 CHARLYCIA 42 (Mrs V Robsen) R Earnshaw 10-8...
0805 CLOVERMILL 37 (R Corrigan) W Bentley 10-6...
03025 MANGROVE MIST 35 (Couper Capital Recing) P Montekin 10-6...
00 WOTAMISTAKATOMAKA 36 (R Whitaker) R Whitaker 10-5...
TING: 7-4 Perium, 4-1 Solo Sail, 5-1 Gymcrak Gamble, 6-1 Belsakserra, 8-1...

2.40 JACK BRITTON MEMORIAL HANDICAP CHASE

1.40 Killula Chief. 2.10 Belsalaama. 2.40 VALASSY (nap).

3.10 Obeliski. 3.40 Wait You There.

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. A Lamach (7)

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P Midgley (7) 72
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... AjÖrkney

C Grant

M Duryer P Carr (7)

..... L Wyer
..... P Herley
J Supple (7)
..... P Niven

S Mason (7) • 99

78 89

TRAINERS

T Tate Jammy Fitzgerald M H Easterby Mrs V Aconley

91

97

2.30 HAMPSHIRE HANDICAP CHASE (£3,769: 3m) (9 runners)

FAR OVER STRUY 3! 2nd of 5 to Cache Fleur in Kempton (2m 4f, good to firm). FRAGRANT DAWN best Deadly Cherm 31/st et Kempton (2m). SPACE 5 deadly Cherm 31/st et Kempton (2m). SPACE 6 deadly Cherm 31/st et Kempton (2m). SPACE 7 deadly cherm (2m). SPACE 8 deadly cherm (2m). SPACE 8 deadly cherm (2m). SPACE 8 deadly cherm (2m). SPACE 9 deadly cherm (2m). SPAC

GOING: GOOD, GOOD TO FIRM ON BENDS (CHASE COURSE)

101 1-22112 FAR OVER STRUY 21 (B.D.F.(G) (1 Low) O Sherwood 7-11-12.
102 0U4-141 FRAGRANT DAWN 20 (CD.F.(G.S) (W O'Gorman) D Elsworth 8-11-8.
103 00/3-321 SPACE FAIR 42 (D.F.(G.S) (Osborne House Lid) R Lee 9-11-8.
104 324-111 SHAMANA 20 (CD.G) (Lord Northempton) D Nicholeon 6-11-7.
105 BCKCET WOOD 31 (Mass D Holland-Hibbert) N Geselee 7-11-4.
106 P0/03-30 FIDDLE A LITTLE 18 (G Hubbard) F Murphy 7-11-4.
107 0/6-P045 YOZZER HUGHES 29 (D.F) (R Hughes) P Leach 7-11-4.

2.00 FEBRUARY NATIONAL HUNT NOVICES HURDLE

(Drv f: £2,721: 2m 4f 120yd) (15 runners)

Fragrant Dawn can follow up

THERE is an excellent op- Aldermaston Novices' Chase. portunity to glean hints for . He is my nap. next month's National Hunt festival by watching the and the Stroud Green Hurdle steeplechasing career at at Newbury today.

From the former, Far Over Struy, Fragrant Dawn, Space Fair and Shamana have been entered for ther Arkle Challenge Trophy while the entire field for the latter is engaged in the Daily Express Triumph Hurdle.

Fragrant Dawn, who won the valuable L'Oreal Hurdle on this track two years ago when he was trained by Jimmy Fitzgerald, can win the

1.30 FRAGRANT DAWN 1.30 Shamana.

MANDARIN

(nap). 2.00 Ashfold Copse.

4.00 Cokenny Boy.

4.30 Hawthorn Blaze

Brian Beel: 3.30 Chilhampton.

3.30 Broad Beam.

2.30 Tom Troubadour. 3.00 None So Brave.

.

Now in the care of David Elsworth, Fragrant Dawn Aldermaston Novices' Chase made an exciting start to his Kempton three weeks ago when he beat the consistent mare Deadly Charm by three and a half lengths.

A talk with the gifted Whitsbury trainer at Ascot on Wednesday left me in no doubt that Fragrant Dawn's polished display at Kempton did not take him by surprise. even though opposition that day also included Beech Road and Vazon Bay, who, along with Deadly Charm, were

MICHAEL PHILLIPS

preferred in the betting. Significantly, though. Deadly Charm's trainer this time with Shamana. whose victory over this course and distance at the end of last year was sandwiched between two wins at Warwick.

While Shamana was not so convincing last time, she did beat Young Pokey first time out and anyone who watched the latter win at Ascot earlier

SIS

RICHARD EVANS

2.00 San Fernando. 4.30 Hawthorn Blaze.

1.30 SHAMANA (nap).

...... J Kavanagh

this week will appreciate the scale of that achievement. However. I feel she will need to improve even on that run if she is to beat Fragrant Dawn

on these terms.

Fragrant Dawn should be the first leg of a double for his David Nicholson opposes both his trainer and jockey Fragrant Dawn again today. Paul Holley. They have a clear chance of landing the second division of the February National Hunt Novices' Hurdle with Hawthorn Blaze provided he runs and jumps as well as he did when he won at Lingfield before falling

> The first division can go to Ashfold Copse, who was run-

BETTING: 2-1 Duhama, 5-2 None So Brave, 4-1 Kashan, 8-1 High Grade, 10-1 Mubin, 16-1 others,

FORM FOCUS

DUHARRA beat Vestiev 11 over course and distance (good). NONE SO BRAVE 21 2nd of 18 to Good Profile at Chapetow (2m, good to soft) with DUHARRA (same terms) 23 5th with MUBIN (5th better off) 13th and AMARUKA (5th better off) 15th. HIGH GRADE beat Crabby 8it 4i at Lingfield (AW.

3.30 CHARLES HIGGINS MEMORIAL FOXHUNTERS CUP HUNTER CHASE

BETTENG: 7-2 Broad Beam, 9-2 Mapri Warrior, 8-1 Chilhampton, Easter Lee, 7-1 Bee Garden, 10-1 others.

SEE GARDEN an hd 2nd of 6 to General James at Plumpion (2m, good). BROAD BEAM disappointing since besting Another Coral hd at Strattford (2m). December 1988. EASTER LEE best Prince Cartion Devon (3m 11, herd). SCHLEMMER 131/sl 3rd of 13 to Warleggen at Worcester (3m, good to 8m).

Long handloap: Smith's Gamble 9-12, Admirals All 9-11, Meditator 9-6, Nickle Joe 8-12, Suksab 8-9, Mineral Dustr 8-7.

BETTING: 11-4 Cokenny Boy, 7-2 Welshman, 5-1 Gay Rufflen, 11-2 Jopanini, 12-1 Battellon, 14-1 Meditator, 20-1 Smith's Gamble, Villa Recos, 25-1 others.

FORM FOCUS

BATTALION disappointing since beating Broctune Gray 8I at Wetherby (3m, good) last term. VILLA BECOS best Re-Release SI at Ascot (2m 44, good to firm) in December last term.

COKENNY-BOY best Petry Bridge 3I at Wincanton (2m 61, good to firm) with GAY RUFFIAN (8Ib better off) 20I 7th. WELSHMAN best The Widget Man 1/21 Selection: OOKENNY BOY

BETTRIG: 5-4 Hawthorn Blaze, 9-2 Gandouge Gien, 7-1 See More Indians, 10-1 Roxdon Hill, 16-1 others.

FORM FOCUS

HAWTHORN BLAZE best Stevesdon 3½ at Ling-field (2m, good) on penultimate start. BRACK N BRANDY 45: 5th of 9 to Cueen OT The Stars in Kibeggen (2m 2), good) novice chase.
GANDOUGE GLEN best Born Deep 5! in 8-tunner hass (2m, good) Newton Abbor (2m 110yd, 15) to Woodurather at Newton Abbor (2m 110yd, 15) to Woodurather at Newton Abbor (2m 110yd, 15) to Woodurather at Devon (2m 110yd, 15) to Arabi-atter S WALK SI 3rd of 12 to Trill Along in Market

BETTING: 11-4 Castle King, 7-2 Kilmond Wood, 5-1 Centenary Star, Flodden Field, 8-1 Obeliski, 12-1 others.

SETTING: 11-8 Logamimo, 3-1 Landaku, 4-1 Wait You There, 6-1 Unex-Plained. 10-1 Liture-O

4.10 LEVY BOARD NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,490: 2m) (18 runners)

4 IU LEVY BOARD NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,490: 2m) (18 runners)

1 116 HUSO 20 (D,BF,F) (G Cole) P Hastam 4-12-0. N Bertiley (7) 89
2 08-54.31 STRONG VIEWS 29 (D,S) (P Piles) W A Stephenson 5-12-0. C Grant 38
3 43321 SET THE STANDARDS 114 (D,F) (A Whalens) A Whitene 4-11-13. G Thomson (7) 67
4 0012 MAJOR IVOR 20 (D,BF,G) (P Colquibour) Mrs G Reweley 7-11-12. P Niven 35
328265 HYPNOTIST 18 (BF) (P Goodsil) W Bertiley 5-11-11. L Wyer 6
4 114 FIT THE BILL 13 (D,F) (Mrs S Walker) J Wainweight 4-11-5. R Marriey 91
7 4-03P30 ROYALIST 4 (T Dawson) Mrs J Barcisy 8-11-4. C Hawkins 95
8 000 NICHOLAS MARK 63 (J Ogden) Jimmy Fitzgerald 8-10-11. M Dwyer 94
9 032-464 WHITEWEB 43 (V) (North East Paper Co Ltd) B Marray 5-10-11. F Murtagh (5) 94
10 045029 AL SABAK 18 (N Mitter) Mitter 4-10-10. J Stypple (7) 94
11 604 WOODSTOCK LODGE 25 (A Cerr) D Franks 4-10-9. P Cerr (7) 91
12 080- MR MONEYMAKER 225F (L Bowles) C Nash 5-10-8. Mrs P Nash (7) 91
14 0-1000P BREAK AWAY BRIDGE 65 (G) (N Mitter) N Mitter 6-10-4. D Nash (7) 99
15 00PP-03 GREAT SERVICE 77 (B,BF) (A Watson) G Moore 5-10-1. D Wilkinson 91
16 054U ESCAPE TALK 104 (Mrs & Aden) J Dooler 5-10-1. D Wilkinson 91
17 PS PRESIDENT GEORGE 29 (A Betsy) A Baley 5-10-0. L O'Hara 8
8ETTING: 3-1 Major hor, 7-2 Set The Standards, 5-1 Huso, Strong Vews, 8-1 Frt The Bit, 12-1 others.

SETTING: 3-1 Major Ivor. 7-2 Set The Standards, 5-1 Huso, Strong Views, 8-1 Fit The Bib., 12-1 others.

4.40 LADBROKE HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,075: 3m 2f 160yd) (13 runners)

1 4-20124 FIRM-PRICE 20 (CD.F.G) (Mrs S McDonald) Mrs G Reveley 11-11-12. P Niven 2 20/4F/P KING'S HARVEST 51 (F.G.S.) (Mrs S Bramall) Mrs G Reveley 11-11-12. L Wyer 3 1-6P0P5 CASTLEVENNON 42 (C.F.G.S.) (Mrs S Bramall) Mrs S Bramall 11-11-4 J D'Gorman 98 4 00401F- RONGALE 255 (F.S.) (Mrs V Hambly) C Beever 7-11-4 Mrs A Hambly 57 5 231-4-9 ROSTREAMER 8 (B.G.S.) (Mrs D Forsyth) G Bravery 9-11-0 R Boggan 98 6 1P-54R5 DAWN COYOTE 3 (D.SF.S.) (R Anderson) Mrs S Bradburns 9-10-12. P Williams (7) 92 0P-1434 SHILLINSKI 25 (B.C.D.EF.S.) (R Matson) G Moore 5-109 J J Callaghan 98 1228-6-10 CARCUSEL CALYPSO 38 (CD.BF.G.S.) (A Saccomendo) M Hammond 6-10-9 C Grant 91 0-112-2P SECRET FINALE 29 (CD.F.G.S.) (J Fort) J Fort 13-10-6 R Marley 9-90 10 UUFP-00 MISS CLIB ROYAL 38 (CD.F.G.) (Halewood Ltd.) Jammy Fritzgerald 9-10-3 M Dwyer 11 0-5284 IRISH (GENT 25 (W Stephenson) W A Stephenson 6-10-0 S Storey 9-13-3F/P0-5R FIEE MINO 20F (P Acontay) Mrs V Acontey 6-10-0 S Storey 9-13-5F/P0-5R FIEE MINO 20F (P Acontay) Mrs V Acontey 6-10-0 P Harley 9-10-10-0 P Harley 9-10-0 North 1 Intl. 9-6 Fires Mino 20F (P Acontay) Mrs V Acontey 6-10-0 P Harley 9-10-0 North 1 Intl. 9-6 Fires Mino 20F (P Acontay) Mrs V Acontey 6-10-0 P Harley 9-10-0 North 1 Intl. 9-6 Fires Mino 20F (P Acontay) Mrs V Acontey 6-10-0 P Harley 9-10-0 North 1 Intl. 9-6 Fires Mino 20F (P Acontay) Mrs V Acontey 6-10-0 P Harley 9-10-0 P Harley 9-10-

Long handleap: Burning Light 9-9, Free Minx 9-0 BETTING: 7-2 Carousel Calypso, 4-1 Firm Price, 5-1 Secret Finale, 6-1 Burning Light. Rostreamer, 8-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

35.7 L Wyer 29.4 M Dwyer 29.3 C Grant 26.9 P Niven 25.0 R Garntly 21.7 P Midgley

Runners Percent JOCKEYS

4.30 FEBRUARY NATIONAL HUNT NOVICES HURDLE

3.10 BEDALE NOVICES CHASE (£2,166: 2m 4f) (13 runners)

3.40 NORTH EAST RACING CLUB HANDICAP CHASE

(Div II: £2,700: 2m 4f 120yd) (14 runners)

4.00 CRICKLADE HANDICAP HURDLE (£3,925: 2m 4f 120yd) (12 runners)

next time out at Ascot.

(Amateurs: £1,604: 2m 4f) (10 runners)

ning at Kempton before Spinning won again at Sandown. The way that Ashfold Copse has performed in both his races this season has suggested that this longer trip will be to his liking.

While Elsworth and Holley will also be entertaining hopes of winning the Stroud Green Hurdle with course and distance winner Duharra, it goes against the grain to oppose None So Brave. His unbeaten record over hurdles was brought to

an end at Chepstow by Good Profile, who has since remained unbeaten. 3.00 STROUD GREEN HURDLE (4-Y-O: £3,752: 2m 100yd) (7 runners)

MANDARIN

1.50 Village Reindeer. 2.20 Paco's Boy. 2.50 Floret 3.20 Run And Skip. 3.50 Shikari Kid. 4.20 Melcius. 4.50 Realm's Princess.

1.50 Village Reindeer. 2.20 Sooner Still. 2.50 Desperate. 3.20 Mount Argus. 3.50 James My Boy. 4.20 Fiddlers Three. 4.50 Mythical Storm. Brian Beel: 3.20 Mount Argus.

GOING: GOOD TO SOFT

1.50 REFLEX NATIONAL HUNT NOVICES HURDLE (£1,565: 2m) (18 runners)

1 14 BOLL WEEVIL 28 (D,S) O Sherwood 6-11-12

11-4 Village Rendeer, 4-1 Noble Insight, 5-1 Hangover, 6-1 Bo Waevil, 10-1 Burmese Ruby, 14-1 King's Rarity, 16-1 others

2.20 GREDINGTON LONG DISTANCE HANDICAP CHASE (£3,902: 3m 4f) (13)

1 2113 SOONER STILL 37 [V,BF,F,G,S) J Edwards 8-11-7 2 -112 PACO'S BOY 50 (B.BF,F.G.S) M Pipe 7-11-5 P Scudemore P Scutemore
3 -463 ROYAL SATTERY 22 (G) D Berons 9-11-4
R Greene (5)
4 4132 MISTER CHRISTIAN 15 (B.G.S) P Nicholis 11-11-1
M A Fitzgersid (5)
5 32/P PEMBROKESHIRE LAD 21 (5) R Lee 11-10-13
B Downley

9 6FP- RAU"AL 346 (B,CD,S) T Baley 13 10-3 D Tegg 10 PO-4 GREEN TOPS 36 (V,D,G,S) M Avison 10-10-0 11 9455 DUBIOUS JAKE 18 (C.F.S) R Woodhouse 9-10-0
12 481U WILLOWSON 23 (D.F) K White 11-10-0.... R Bellamy
13 FF-P TUDOR SUN 18 (S) J Bennett 10-10-0.... S Burrough 7-2 Psco's Boy, 4-1 Royal Battlery, 5-1 Mister Christian, 6-1 Sooner Still 8-1 Gay Moore, 10-1 Blue Dart, 16-1 Green Tops, 25-1 others.

2.50 DEAD CERT NOVICES SELLING

HURDLE (£1, 165: 2m 4f) (10) Miss S Baxter (7) 6 SP00 SIBYL O'DONNELL 25 K Bridgwater 5-11-7 000 DESPERATE 21 N Twiston-Davies 4-10-9 C Llewellyn 8 05 ShAREES STAR 17 N Bennshard 4-10-9 C Llewellyn 9 D HIGH TIME GIRL 32 E Bachall 4-10-4 ... B Clifford (5) 10 0F0 NEEDWOOD POPPY \$2 B Morgan 4-10-4 ... R Stronge

3.20 GILBERT COTTON MEMORIAL HUNTER CHASE (Amateurs: £1,688: 3m) (12)

15-8 Floret, 5-2 Desperate, 5-1 Galatea Pearl, 8-1 High Mariner, 10-1 First Exhibition, 16-1 Shareef Star, 25-1 others.

1 2P2- CLONROCHE GAZETTE 314 (S) H Wheeler 12:12:7 H Wheeler (7) 2 P40- HARLEY 307 (CO,G,S) Mes J Eaton 12-12-7 2 PAGE HAVILEY SUT (CAUGES) MISS J EMORT 12-12-7

D McCain Jr (7)

3 414- INTO THE MYSTIC 256 (D,BF,F,G,S) MIS J Costinop
10-12-7----

4 110/ MOTIVATOR 1428 (D.G.S) | Brown 12-12-7 5 114- MOUNT ARGUS 300 (D.EF.F.G.S) S Brookshaw 10-12-7 S Brookshaw 6 210/ NOBBANOKKER 694 (D.S) Miss C Saunders 10-12-7 J Greenal (3)
7 /01- OAKLEY HOUSE 343 (D,F,S) R Aston 13-12-7
W Barlow (7) 8 /FP- RAGENS BOY 279 (C.G.S) Mrs Vicky Teal 11-12-7

9 115- ROYAL GREEK 303 (BF.F.G.S) P Moris 10-127
P Moris (7)
10 F41- RUN AND SKIP 282 (D.F.S.) J Spearing 14-127
M Armytage
11 PFP- TORSIDE 314 (B.D.F.G.S) K Bishop 13-127 12 2- CROSSFIRE 370 Miss I Dady 8-11-9. J Cambidge (7) 52 Mount Argus, 114 Run And Stop, 3-1 Nobbenokter, 7-1 Royal Greek, 14-1 Oakley House, 20-1 Crossine, 25-1 others.

8 /0-6 CLARE LAD 20 (F.S) G Ham 9-10-12 M A Fixgerald (5) 9 -355 REGAL ESTATE 13 (S) D Molfatt 8-10-10 D J Molfatt (7) 10 2210 PURBECK DOVE 20 (D,G) Mrs H Parroll 7-10-9 D Leahy (7) 11 4F2F FIRST CRACK 23 (F,G.S) F Jerdan 7-10-8... J Lodder 12 350P CHARLLE DICKINS 18 (D.S) S Melor 8-10-8. S Earle 13 2360 TRIBAL RULER 25 (D,G) D McCan 7-10-7 G McCourt 14 9425 SHADOW RUN 18 (C,S) R Declar 7-10-7. H Davises 15 00-1 MAJOR KINSMAN 70 (CD.S) R Lee 7-10-2. B Downing 16 45-6 GIPSY RAMBLER 42 (S) N Creambertan 7-10-0. K Jones

4.50 FILLIES SLAY RIDE NATIONAL

HUNT FLAT RACE (£1,029: 1m 4f) (16) 1 0 COLOUR POLICY 20 C Treating 5-11-7
D Bridgwater (3)
DAWN CALL Mrs S Ofever 5-11-7 ... V Stattery (5)
DEEP DELIGHT R Endey 5-11-7 ... M A Fitzgerald (5)
JUND AWAY K White 5-11-7 D J Moffatt (7)
LEINTHALL PRINCESS J Needham 6-11-7
A Frannigan (7)

O MARAZAN 35 Miss J Eaton 5-11-7
MYTHICAL STORM Mrs G Reveley 5-11-7
MYTHICAL STORM Mrs G Reveley 5-11-7
MY M Buckley (7)
PHILLIMAY 20 R Lee 6-11-7

O PHILLIMAY 20 R Lee 6-11-7

O SYLVIA BEACH 38 R Holdes 6-11-7

O THE FOOLISH ONE 23 E Brobas 5-11-7

O ARDLUSSA BAY 20 Julieron 4-10-12

O JERVANDHA 25 Mrs H Parrott 4-10-12

O JERVANDHA 25 Mrs H Parrott 4-10-12

PARTITS W G M Turner 4-10-12

MRS DAY 10-12

MRS DAY 10-12

MRS DAY 10-12

S Dayles (3)

atm's Princess, 11-4 Mythacal Storm, 5-1 Lady Of Rome, 2-1 Realm's Princess, 11-4 Mythical Storm, 5-1 Lady Of Ro 10-1 Philinnay, 12-1 Sylvia Beach, 14-1 others

COURSE SPECIALISTS TRAINERS: M Pipe, 21 winners from 58 runners, 36.2%; G Ham, 8 from 28, 28 6%; G Richards, 20 from 83, 24 1%; Mrs S Cheer, 6 from 27, 22.2%; T Forster, 3 from 14, 21.4%; J Edwards, 13 from 64, 20.3%. JOCKEYS: P Scudamore, 18 winners from 54, 33.3% ndes: N Doughty, 11 from 40, 27.5%; G McCourt, 11 from 47, 23.4%; C Llewellyn, 6 from 31, 19.4%; S McNeill, 4 from 21, 19.0%; J Lodder, 11 from 63, 17.5%

☐ Jodami, beaten for the first time over fences at Ascot on Wednesday, is likely to go straight for the Sun Alliance Novices' Chase at Cheltenham next month without another race. ☐ Gordon Richards confirmed yesterday that Jinxy Jack will miss the Tote Gold Trophy at Newbury tomorrow. In the absence of the eight-year-old the weights will rise at least 81b. ☐ Gavin Husband makes his jumps debut at Bangor today when he partners Mister Hochberg for Ginger McCain. Husband has ridden 52 winners on the Flat.

MANDARIN

1.55 Alle-Roy. 2.25 Saladan Knight. 2.55 Fiala. 3.25 Early Star. 3.55 Grand Guignol. 4.25 Lord Advocate.

THUNDERER 1.55 Frescobaldo. 2.25 Say You Will. 2.55 Fiala. 3.25 Hand On Heart. 3.55 Sandmoor Denim. 4.25 Dawn Success

GOING: STANDARD DRAW: 6F-1M, LOW NUMBERS BEST

1.55 NEW BALDERTON CLAIMING STAKES (£2,382: 1m 3f) (13 runners)

1 /33 LE TEMERAIRE 9 (F) N Tinkler 6-92...... 2 -231 FRESCOBALDO 14 (CD.F,G) M Naughto 3: 005- KRONPRINZ 34J M Crapman 48-12... S D Williams (7) 10 4: 00-1 ALLE-ROY 16J (G) M Tomplans 48-11....... R Cochrane 4 5: 065- MORTHERN FLYER 41 (G) M Chapman 48-10.

2.25 LANGFORD APPRENTICE HANDICAP (82,461: 67) (16)

5 34-5 PROUD BRIGARIEN & (U.S.) II ON GWIBERS 13 6 30-6 SULLY'S CHOICE 23 (B.D.F.G.S) D Chapman 11-9-6 S D WREAMS 6 7 1-20 FURIELLA 23 (BF, D, F) P Hustern 4-9-5 Neoto Howarth (7) 9
8 0-41 STRIP CARTOON 14 (B, CD) S Bowreg 4-9-5 — 11
9 1634 SHEDAD 9 (C) T Berron 4-9-4 — 7
10 065- CATALANI 42 (F) T Neotophion 7-9-3 — R Perham 2
11 01-0 MSS BELL RINGER 6 (D,F) C-HI 4-9-1 MSS A Tucker 8
12 060- PING PONG 41 (CD) T Features 4-9-13 — J Features 1-9-13 — 3
50-0 DAMAAZ 28 (V, CD) J Warnwright 4-9-13 — S Maloney 5
14 3-42 DRUMMERTS DREAM 7 (BF) Ms N Macauley 4-9-17
D Bloos 4

4-1 Funelta, 9-2 Celito, 6-1 Miss Calculate, Saladan Knight, 8-1 Strip Cartoon, Miss Bell Ringer, 10-1 others.

2.55 GAMSTON HANDICAP (£2,206: 2m) (6)

4 JAS/ UNPAID MEMBER 62J (S) J Wherton 879
J Fenning (S) 3
5 -022 MALENDIR 7 (V) W Pairce 4-7-7 L Chemock 5 Evens Fiala, 7-2 Melenor, 6-1 Citton Hampden, 8-1 Delby Dancer, 10-1 Paulinus, 20-1 Unpaid Member.

THE Cheltenham Gold Cup hopes of Cavvies Clown seem to have been dashed again by injury. The 12-year-old, who only last month returned from a 20-month lay-off, has suffered another setback. However, his trainer,

David Elsworth, declined to reveal the nature of the problem. "Cavvies Clown is injured and it's not looking good," he said. "I don't know how long he will be off. I'll know more tomorrow."

Rides Per cent

3.25 OLD CLIPSTONE CLAIMING STAKES (3-Y-O: £2,245: 1m) (9)

(3-Y-O: E2,245: 1m) (9)

1 50-1 EARLY STAR 7 (CD) T Barron 8-10 Alex Greaves 1
2 63-4 BASSIO 3 (F,G) C Allen 8-9 Mick Dearco (7) 6
3 213 HAND ON HEART 9 (BF,CD) W Hagges 8-9
Emmis O'Gorman (5) 5
4 01-3 FEELING FOOLISH 13 (V,CD,BF) T Festhurst 8-6
5 FIREFIGHTER 176 R Hollinshead 8-4 W Ryan 2
6 4 OPTICAL 55 H Writing 8-4 W Ryan 2
7 2842 PATRICIAN MAGGICAN 35 F7 R Wilson 8-4 D Biggs (3) 7
8 60-4 CHARADORO 6 G Burn 7-11 G Bardwell 8
9 TURNING HEADS J H Wilson 7-9 A Macilay 4
8-4 Early Star, 7-2 Feeling Foolish, 4-1 Hand On Heart, 6-1 Patrician Margician, 8-1 Basso, 14-1 Optical, 15-1 others.

3.55 HALAM HANDICAP (82,304: 7f) (13)

1 00-2 GRAND GUIGNOL 14 (CD,G) G Wragg 4-10-0 W R Swinburn 9 2 21- OBSIDIAN GREY 343 (CD) B McMahon 5-9-13 R Cochrane 12

11 -402 SANDMOOR DENIM 9 (D.F.G) 5 Bowring 5-8-1

12 606 HAMILTON-LADY 195 D Molfest 480 Derrest Moffast (7) 6 13 00-0 HARRY'S JOY 14 C Hill 478 J Quint 13 11-4 Mustry Boff, 3-1 Grand Guignot, 4-1 Mac's Princess, 6-1 Yonge Tander, 8-f Sandimoor Denim, 10-1 others.

4.25 MANSFIELD HANDICAP (£2,578: 1m 4f) (18)

2,578: 1ff) 41) (10) · 1 0344 DAWN SUCCESS 9 (F,G,S) D Chepman 69-13 S Wood 8 2 2020 MR WISHING WELL 14 (C.D.S) R Williams 5-9-1(W Ryan 13
8 30-0 BEDOUIN PRINCE 9 (CD) C Beever 5-8-13... M Hills 2
9 500- MILLY BLACK 81 J Hants 48-12... R Cochrans 7
10 4-06 PONDERED BID 7 (B.G.S.) Pat Mitchell 88-9 C Hawkstey (7) 5
11 -061 LORD ADVOCATE 9 (V,CD) M Naughton 4-8-9 (5ex)

12 00-2 UNINVITED 9 J Glover 5-8-8 N Carlsie 15 13 0-56 FUSION 9 (F) R Earnshow 8-8-5 Carlsie 15 14 /00- WATCH TOWER BAY 23J R Boss 4-8-3 G Carrier 17 15 08-0 SPANISH WHISPER 9 (F) J Bostock 5-8-3

16 000- HEIR OF EXCITEMENT 43J (F) A Strager 7-7-12 9-4 Carlingford, 3-1 Lord Advocate, 9-2 Uninvited, 6-1 Mr Wishing Well, 8-1 Dawn Success. 10-1 others

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: Lady Herrise, 8 winners from 19 runners. 42.1%: J Gosden, 8 from 24, 33.3%: T Barron, 47 from 182. 25.8%: W O'Gorman, 22 from 101, 21.8%; W Hegges, 6 from 29, 20.7%: W Pearos, 8 from 54, 14.6% JOCKEYS: Alex Greaves, 50 winners from 169 index, 29.6%; Emma O'Gormen, 18 from 106, 17 0%; G Carter, 27 from 168, 16 0%; W Ryan, 7 from 55, 12.7%; R Cochrane, 3 from 26, 11 5%; D Beggs, 7 from 66, 10,6%.

Chaser injured

Ladbrokes Dracing Service 0891 222 + ALL TRACKS 111 123 101 201 NEWBURY BANGOR 102 202 SEDCEPIELD 103 203 SOUTHWELL 101 204

SOUTHWELL: 3 56 Macs Princess



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DAY PRODU

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TOWN ALL PURCTURE MALS SERVE

111

TRAINERS

G Enright O Sherwood M Robinson

MANDARIN

1.40 Explosive Speed. 2.10 Charlycia. 2.40 Snowfire Chap.

4.40 Carousel Calypso.

(4-Y-O: £1,395: 2m) (13 runners)

(£2,489: 3m 2f 160yd) (8 runners)

Long hand-cap: York Impensi 9-11

3.10 Castle King. 3.40 Logamimo. 4.10 Strong Views

an ausmess semi MUSINESS NANCE SERVICE

DADL - BUE

PREVIO

4- 1

April 2 S pa - 4 * * . April 1981

New Zealand escape heavy punishment for fielding lapses on opening day of third Test match

England fail to make the most of good fortune

FROM ALAN LEE, CRICKET CORRESPONDENT, IN WELLINGTON

ENGLAND spent much of vesterday in such apparent command of the threadbare New Zealand bowling that 500 seemed a conservative ambition. Yet they ended the opening day of this third Test match with the top five gone for less than half that figure, and it might easily have been

New Zealand, who put down seven catches during the second Test, dropped another six yesterday. They may pay heavily for such

The chief beneficiary was Alec Stewart who, having been reprieved on 39, 80 and 84, proceeded to his second century of the series and his third in four Tests. He was out, for 107, shortly before the close, but by then he had guaranteed that England's total would at least be a challenging one on a pitch taking an encouraging amount of

The first four wickets all fell to the off breaks of Dipak Patel. Worthy cricketer though he is. Patel is not remotely in the class of Philip Tufnell as a spin bowler, and it was plain, even on this first day, that the maverick of Middlesex once more holds

the key to the game. This, of course, makes the dangerous assumption that the match will not be hijacked by another outrageous tour de force from Ian Botham. The last, it has to be said, was a while ago now, but it would be typical of Botham to turn on something special, having won his 100th cap in the most unexpected circum-

Botham was not even named in England's squad of

Totat (5 wkts, 85 overs, 330 min)

ham, †R C Russell, P A J DeFreitze and P C R Turnell to bet.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-83 (Gooch), 2-159 (Hick), 3-169 (Smith), 4-215 (Lamb), 5-

BOWLING: Morrison 15-2-39-1 (nb 4) (6-0-23-0, 8-0-15-0, 3-2-1-1); Calms 20-2-89-0 (nb 3) (5-1-16-0, 5-0-14-0, 4-0-24-0, 6-1-15-0); Su's 24-8-41-0 (nb 1) (10-1-18-0, 12-8-22-0, 2-1-1-0); Patel 25-6-77-4 (4-0-31-0, 19-5-43-4, 2-1-3-0); Jones 1-0-7-0 (one

spea).

INTERMEDIATE SCORES: Start delayed until 12 noon (90 min) by overnight rain. 50: 70 min, 16.3 overs. Lunch: 63-0 (Goodh 23, Slawart 32) in 22 overs. 100: 140 min, 34 overs. 150: 170 min, 40.4 overs. Tea: 168-2 (Stewart 79, Smith 6) in 52 overs. 200: 248 min, 63.1 overs.

Stewart's 50 in 147 min, 104 balls, 6 fours. 100 in 285 min, 211 balls, 11 fours.

B R Hartland, J G Wright, A H Jones, *M D Crows, K R Rutherford, D N Patel, R T Latham, C L Caims, †i D S Smith, M L Su's, D K Morrison.

A CONTRACTOR OF THE PROPERTY O

..... 30 120 feir open foggy (Runs from middle station still not prepared)

..... 50 100 good open foggy (Some lifts closed due to avalanche danger)

..... 160 260 v.good open cloudy (Very good conditions on well prepared pistes)

........ 60 140 v.good open fine (Very good skiing on all pistes with soft powder)

..... 75, 155 good open cloud (Good skiing at most levels with soft snow)

... 140 215 good open snow (Plenty of fresh powder on all pistes. All litts)

Supplied by Ski Hottine. L. and U refer to lower and upper slopes

Les Deux Alpes ... 50 200 fair open fine -((Good skiing on higher ground. Elsewhere, pistes icy)

Copper Mountain 90 110 good open sun (Best skiing on upper runs. Icy patches on lower)

- NEW ZEALAND

England won toss

12. but found himself hastily drafted in, an hour before the scheduled start, when both Chris Lewis and Derek Pringle were ruled out by injuries. Lewis's sore finger might not normally have been thought sufficient to discount him from a Test match. and the imminence of the World Cup must have played its part, but Pringle, who might in any case have made way for Lawrence, was trou-

bled by a deteriorating back

problem. This was an irony, for when his own back condition required surgery in 1988, even the indomitable Botham began to believe 100 Tests was beyond him. "After such a serious operation I was just pleased to play the game again at all." he reflected last night. "Every time I played was a bonus. But having since got so close, of course it has been on my mind. Only three Englishmen have done it before me, so it does mean

Botham was able to spend the day in the dressing-room after Gooch had won the toss for the first time in the series. His decision to bat, when play began 90 minutes late, was not altogether uncomplicated, nor entirely confident, but remains almost certainly correct. Within six overs, however, Gooch himself had been missed twice, at gully and third slip, off the unfortunate Cairns, who had drawn the short straw of operating into

This was the job that had been earmarked for Willie Watson, but when his persistent thigh injury eliminated him, New Zealand contentiously opted to go into the

four, then twice driven straight for six, once when Hick had only one hand on Patel changed ends with **ENGLAND:** First Innings the curious figures of one for 31 from four overs, and commenced a long and profitable spell downwind. First, he bowled Hick, through a diffi-dent definisive push, for 43, equalling Hick's best Test score. Then he had Smith caught off the leading edge at mid-wicket, two balls after being dropped at slip. Finally,

bowl him.

Patel was cut disdainfully for

Lamb into one late cut too After Hick and Stewart had put on 76 in 13 overs, Patel and Su'a clawed the game back for their side, and when Morrison returned from a prolonged graze in the deep to dismiss Stewart, the healthiest crowd of the series had something to genuinely cheer them. It may ultimately not be enough, but this was far from the demolition job Eng-

land had threatened

probing outside off stump, he

tempted the adventurous

Umpires: 8 L Aldridge and R S Dunne.

New Zealand go on the defensive

A DOGGED, unbeaten 78 by Debbie Hockley, the former New Zealand captain, helped to steer her team slowly towards 184 for five at the close of play on the first day of the second Test match against England at Cook's Gardens, Wanganui, yesterday (a Special Correspondent

80 150

AUSTRIA

FRANCE

UNITED STATES

SWITZERLAND

The Kiwis, who won the toss, lost Karen Plummer for one in the second over when Jo Chamberlain removed her off stump.

After Susie Kitsin had Jackie Clark leg-before for 36, Hockley and Penny Kinsella featured in a record New Zealand third wicket partnership of 105 when

cloudy

cloud

Temp

+2C

Kinsella edged Chamberlain to Lisa Nye, the wicketkeeper, for 53. The defensive aping 18 maidens.

proach gave the English bowlers impressive figures, with Carole Hodges, the offspinner, sending down 29 overs for only 15 runs, includ-

NEW ZEALAND 184 for 5. D Hockley 78 no. P Kinsella 53, J Clark 36; S Kitson 2-25, J Chamberlain 2-65.



Perth game marks return to Australia by S Africa

FROM JOHN WOODCOCK IN PERTH

in Australia today. They come to Perth, where they play a day-night game against Western Australia on Sunday, one of a series of warmup matches before the World Cup, which starts on Febru-

Pakistan are already in Australia, Imran Khan having insisted upon an early arrival so that their batsmen should become accustomed to the steeper bounce of the ball in Australian conditions. The Australians have delayed announcing their side until the end of next week, so as to give Bruce Reid, for one, an extra gailop or two to prove

Despite all the fuss that was made at the time, especially by Border, the dropping of Marsh and Mark Waugh from the Australian side after the fourth Test match against India had, on balance, the desired effect. Moody had the chance to show he is made of the right stuff, and Phillips to show that he is hardly good

Waugh, for his part, took the opportunity to play himself back into form with a large hundred for New South

FOR the first time since Wales. By the end of the fifth but it never seemed prejudi-1963. a representative South Test match on Wednesday, cial to the flow of things, and African cricket side will land thanks not least to the Perth if it makes a more varied, less pitch, the Australians seemed reinvigorated.

Refereeing the series just finished was, thankfully, something of a sinecure, first for Mike Smith, and then for Peter May, two former England captains. They could see for themselves that the umpiring was not very good, but they were there to support the umpires, not to criticise them.

At Adelaide, Chandrakant Pandit, the Indian wicketkeeper, was shown the yellow card, as it were, for overtly disputing several decisions. But the referees' influence on affairs came simply through being there. Only once in a while, as when Australia played West Indies in the Caribbean last year, are they likely to have to assume a

higher profile. Although the players do not like it — bowlers for obvious reasons, and hatsmen for fear of being thought spineless if they said they did — the new regulation whereby only one bouncer may be bowled to any one batsman in an over seemed to me to work rather well. The occasional no-ball

vicious game of it, so the better.

For taking 31 wickers in the Test matches, Craig McDermott won himself a car as the International Cricketer of the Year, just beating David Boon to the chequered flag. Had there been a prize for the Indians, it would have been for the way they surprised Australia by bowling so

effectively. England totals of 653 for four, 519, 474 for four, and 320 for four, when India were in England in 1990, led Australia's batsmen to think that they would fill their boots. In the event, only Boon did so -and he took an interminable time about it.

When last I had seen India play Australia in Australia, in 1977-8, Bishen Bedi took 31 wickets_in a series in which there were three times as many overs of spin (the equivalent of 1,075 six-ball overs to 339). Each day's play consisted, on average, of 25 more overs than there were now. By present standards, that is very nearly another two hours' play, a disparity which dewas called from square leg rides the existing rec when a bowler transgressed, ment of 90 overs a day. rides the existing requireGOLF

Ballesteros and Rafferty lead

Ronan Rafferty shot sixunder-par 66s in the Dubal Desert Classic yesterday -one after a stroke of genius. the other after a stroke of misfortune.

CRAHAN MORRIS

Ballesteros, who has 66 wins in his career, looked more likely to bogey than birdie the 450-yard sixth his 15th - when driving into sand. He was left with a shot of 180 yards into the wind. but a speciacular four-iron rolled up to within six feet of the fing for his sixth birdle.

"It was a great shot,"
Ballesteros said. "It was close
to the lip, but I was lucky to
get a good lie." Rafferty's bad
luck came at the 351-yard
second, which he looked more likely to birdie than bogey when his wedge started off perfectly on line. It was so accurate that it struck the flagstick and rebounded 40ft away, from where the Ulsterman three-putted.

"These things happen." Rafferty said, able to reflect on a "good, fun day" that reached a satisfying climax when he rolled in a shot from 18ft on the last to catch

Rafferty, the leading money-winner on the European tour in 1989, wants to lorget last year. Apart from slipping to 35th in the money list, he missed the PGA and Open Championships through illness and injury, and in between was fined a record £5,000 for walking out after 27 holes of the US Open Championship.

It all seems behind him now, though. In Australia last month, he won the Paim Meadows Cup and £105,000, the biggest cheque of his career, and last Sunday he began the European campaigh by finishing joint second in the Asian Classic. A day of low scoring - 67 players are on par or better -

CARD OF THE COURSE

Rafferty failed to get away from the pack. Mark James is one of six on five under, despite being both travel-weary

Alongside him are Mike McLean, of Kent, the 1991 rookie of the year, the Swede. Per-Ulrik Johansson, the American, Jay Townsend, the Argentinian, José Coceres, and Des Smyth, of Ireland.

Nick Faldo and lan Woosnam recorded 70s. but Sam Torrance slumped to a 77 and, lying 115th, needs a considerable improvement even to have a chance of surviving the halfway cut.

LEADING FIRST ROUND SCORES [GB and Intend unless stated]: 66; 5 Bellesterce (SO), R Refrenty 87 D Smyn J Townserd (US), J Coceres (Arg), M James, M McLean, P-U Jonardson (Swe) 68; W Makey (US), R Winchester, J Spence, S Bennett, P Broadmant, G Brand Jr Sick-Alleter, A Forebrand, J Apin Japen; M Lanner (Swe), D Corry, P Hell 60; C O'Corner Jr, C Van der Velde (Nott), J Camles (Sp), J Robeston, M Miller D Feherty, P Way D J Resselt, B Lanne 70; G Day (US), P Lanner, R Conzider (Arg), J Berendt (Arg), P McCanley, N Felice R Karlsson (Swe), S Felic I Wocsner, P Thomas 71; L Tinder FAssa, C Massan

Daly's drive for respect goes on

FROM MITCHELL PLATTS, GOLF CORRESPONDENT

THE search for lasting re- anyone could win." Daly has when he plays in the Qantas Skins Game starting here tomorrow and then in the Aus-

tralian Masters next week. Daly earned global acclaim for his win in the US PGA Championship last year but some observers believe he could be the proverbial oneweek wonder. He has no intention of allowing such a label to stick.

The way I look at it is that if I don't make it on the golf course then I just don't deserve any credit," he said. "So I've got to go out and do it. But I know there is pressure on me to win again and I know it will be difficult.

"My first thought for 1992 is not to be hard on myself. I got to where I was burnt out last December - I didn't feel like playing golf. So I want to make sure I'm fresh every time I tee up from now on. My aim is to be in contention more often and to be more patient.

There are guys who know they can win any time. That it will happen. But I don't know. What I do know is that there are 130 or so guys teeing up most weeks and

Skins Game, with the Australians, Ian Baker-Finch, the Open champion, and Greg Norman, being joined by

Hideki Kase, of Japan. There is no question of Daly not outdriving them on the Mirage Country Club course. His best drive at sea level is 370 yards and he has hit a ball more than 400 yards at altitude. In a recent publicity stunt, Daly ham-mered a ball 800 yards down

a runway.
"It carried 350 yards and rolled another 450," he said. 'I was quite proud of myself that day. I hit the runway with ten out of my 12 drives and it was only 25 yards

It is rare for Daly to praise himself. He is modest and down to earth. "I've heard the comparison with Jack Nicklaus. But I'm no Jack Nicklaus. I'm just good old John Daly from Dardanelle,

"It's still strange, for instance, for me to accept when I'm out eating, or something, that people know me. I see myself as a country boy, not a movie star."

Cache Fleur win costs Pipe £250

RACING

MARTIN Pipe, the cham-pion trainer, was fined £250 by the Wincanton stewards 5/2 yesterday for failing to tell Peter Scudamore that a horse had a thin skin. 5/2 The course veterinary of-ficer reported Cache Fleur had returned injured, bleeding from whip marks, after his three-and-a-half length win in the Wincanton Chall-

enge Cup Novices' Chase.
"They fined me because I failed to tell Scu that Cache Fleur was thin skinned," Pipe said. "What can you do? You either have the stewards screaming at you or the punters.

The whip rule was employed again later. Ronnie Beggan was suspended for two days, February 15 and 16, for hitting the gambled-on Brown Carpet after the final flight of the Bourton Novices' Handicap Hurdle.

Jenny Pitman withdrew Toby Tobias and Rouyan from their respective races after finding the ground too firm. "If I ran Toby on this I'm unlikely to have a horse left in the morning." Toby Tobias could now run

at Newbury tomorrow in the

tenham claims when beaten by Sendai in the Sidney Banks Memorial Hurdle. The 5-2 on favourite was struggling more than two flights from home when

Richard Dunwoody went for

Compton Chase. "We'll look at the track then decide."

At Huntingdon, Travado

failed to advertise his Chel-

Mrs Pitman added.

the whip and found little Sendai, trained by Josh Gifford, has not been en-tered for Cheltenham. "I just didn't think she was good enough," the trainer said.

Huntingdon Going: good

1,40 (2m 4f hdle) 1, Broctune Grey (P Neven, 47 hv); 2, Sprouting Venture (33-1); 3, What if (11-1) 18 ran, NR: Isabeau 13a, 33al. Mrs G Reveloy, Tote, \$1.50; \$1.10, 953 80, £3.50. DF £169 20, CSF £37.16.

237. 16. 2.10 (3m ch) 1, River Bounty (R Supple, 15-2); 2, Repeat The Dose (5-1); 3, Mountebor (5-2 law); 4, Stoton Abbey (3, 1), 18 ran. ½I, 3I, 12I, J Upson Tote: 28.00; 21.40, 21.70, 21.60, 21.10, 05 21.5.60, CSF, £42.15, Thoust: £110.18 243 (2m 4 hdie) 1, Sendel (D Murphy, 11-2); 2, Travado (2.5 tar); 3, Ambroso (7-1), 9 ran. 291, 121, J Gifford, Tote: SS 20; C1 20, E1.10, E1.80, DF, E2.30, CSF, E7.86.

E7 85. 3.10 (2m 200yd ch) 1, Pick Roundstone (P Hide, 16-1); 2, Weigh Berd (11-10 lav); 3, Hohermann (11-1) 13 rpn 1½1, 31. J (Sifford, Tote, 17:33, 52.40, 51.40, 52.20. DF: £10.40. CSF: £34.81

3,40 (2m 41 ch) 1, Bertres (Mr J Durken, 11-2), 2, The Red One (1-2 tav); 3, Goe-A (13-2), 12 ran, 345, 151, D Marrey Smith. Tota: £7.80; £1.90, £1.50, £1.50, DF: £5.40, CSF: £8.51 25 40. CSF: 25.61 4.10 (2m 100yd hdie) 1, Leva Felfa (D Styrma, 16-1), 2, J Brand (6-4 fev); 3, Affaire De Coeur (33-1); 4, Pent Libr (33-1), 17 ran, NF Pinata, The Yemper, 5), hd. 2l M Benks, Tote 228 40; 24.10, 21.10, 215.60, 29.50 DF: 259 40, CSF: 244.28, Tnosay 2553.05.

Wincanton

Gaing: good 1.30 (2m hdle) 1. Stateliack (P Holley, 20-1): 2. Pharty Story (6-4 lay), 3. Vestiev (7-4), 11 ran 2 4 D Elsworth Tote: \$17.50; 23.10, \$1.40 \$1.20, DF \$29.50, CSF \$46.82

246 82 2.90 (3m 11 ch) 1. Cache Fleur [P Scudamore. 7-4 fav]. 2. Welsh Com-mander (9-1). 3. Camden Belle (33-1) 15 ran AR: Rouven 3/sl. 15l. M Pipe Tote 13.10; 21.80. E2-40. 213.20. OF: 58.90. CSF 218.08. CSF. 218.98. 1. Woodland Flower (J. Osborns, 3-1 tav). 2. Morpion (7-1): 3, Abylar (11-2): 14 ran *41 8: 0. Sherwood Tota: 53.90. 51.60. 52.00. 52.00. DF. 216.80 CSF. 522.13 3.00 (2m 51 ch) 1. Star's Delight (P Scudamore, 2-13 tav) 2. General Mer-chant (11-21 2 ran NR Toty Tobias %). M Ppe Tote: £1 10 3 m -1

3.30 (2m hole) 1 Bold Choice (Mr R Darke, 50-1). 2 Three Lakes (20-1): 3. Sociaty Guest (13-8 tas) 12 nm. 11, sh hd. R Frost Tota 550 90 59 70: 52.70 21 80 DF 5538 60 CSF 5681 94 Thicast 52327 99. 12327 98.
4.00 (2m 51 ch) 1. Celtic Leisure (Mrs R Vickery, 7-4) 2. Wellmown Character (11-2) 3 Dectatorship (33-1) Some Obligation 13-8 fev 10 ran 1-1 1/51 Mrs R Vickery. Tote: 23 20. 21.80. C1.20. 23.30. Df. 55 00 CSF. 210.74.
4.30 (2m hdle) 1. Greytniars Bobby (M A Fitzgerald, 4-1 fev). 2. Landyap (9-2); 3. Jagged Edge (13-2). 12 ran. 101. 1/41. Mrs J Refrer. Tate. E4.50; £2.10; £2.00; £1.80; DF £11 80 CSF £20.64 Tricest: £104.49. Lingfield Park

Going: standard

1.50 (2m 4) hdie) 1, Fact Or Fiction (J. Halls, 1-2 tav), 2, Texan Clamour (7-2; 3, Caspian Beluga (10-1) 5 ran. 3%), 25 Mass B Senders Tota: 15:50; £1:10, £2:20, DF £1:90, CSF: £2:79. Dr. 1. 190. CSr: \$2.79.
2.20 [2m 21 hole) 1, Gallant Effort (A Dicken, 5-1), 2, Caroles Clown (11-2); 3, Sador Boy (13-2) Young Fact 8-15 tav. 6 an 2, 8, 5 Dow. Totle: \$3,60, \$2.00, \$2.40 DF-£19 80 CSF. £30.08. 2-50 (2n tole) 1, Americ (G Rowe, 6-1); 2 Take Issue (7-2); 3, Lusty Lad (3-1 lav), 6 ran, 1/si, -k.L. T. Thomson Jones, Tota: C7-20, 53.00, £1.30. DF: £20.20 CSF-£24.10

224 10
3.20 (2m 44 hote) 1, Abertoyle (A Magure, 94), 2, Brunsteck Blue (8-1); 3, Master Dencer (6-4 fav), 8 rat., 51, 81, P. Kellewsy, Tote: 23.40, 21.40, 22.50, DF: 55.70, CSF, 517.75,
3.50 (2m hote) 1, Line Drummer (A Magure, 10-11 ins); 2, Eastern Magire; 6-2, 3, Scented Goddesis (12-1) 12 fan, NF: Take Two, 3391, 121, F. Kellewsy, Tote: 51.80, 51.40, 51.10, 62.70, DF: 52.60, CSF 53.85

CSF S3.89
4.20 (2m flat) 1. Special Account (A Maguire, 6-1). 2, Andrews Ministrel (11-4); 3, Mrs. Jawleylord (7-4 fav). 7 rest. NR Lily Of Picardy. 8I. Vil. C Barwell. Tote: S3.80; £4.20, £2.60 DF. £14.90. CSF. £19.45. Wordy's Wonder (10-1) withdrawn, not under orders — rule 4 applies to all bets, deduction 5p at pound. After a stewards encarry result stood.
Placenor: £55.00. Piacepor: £55.00.

☐ Bravefoot, who was doped at Doncaster in 1990, fin-ished fourth on his hurdling debut at Clonmel yesterday. He is now trained in Ireland by Homer Scott.

HOCKEY

Oxford outmanoeuvre Navy in annual match

Oxford University.....5 Royal Navy...

BY SYDNEY FRISKIN

OXFORD University were back at their best yesterday when outrunning the Royal Navy in the annual match at North Oxford sports ground. Oxford's strategy was to attack strongly and consis-tently from the right, with a quick interchange of passes involving Hoskin, Bambury and Edwards.

Consequently, the strain on the Navy defence restricted their creative powers and the skilful Davey, at centre for-

ward, was unsupported. Thomson, the Navy goalkeeper, kept the scoring down in the first half, by saving three early shots from Mackay at short corners, but he was eventually beaten by Edwards in the twelfth

minute. After failing to convert three short corners in the first half, the Navy were pinned to their own area for long spells

in the second. Hoskin in-creased the Oxford lead from a penalty stroke in the 45th minute and further goals followed by Mackay, from a short corner, Griffiths and finally Hoskin.

A couple of minutes earlier, the Navy had gone close to scoring when Marley set up a chance for Davey, whose shot was well saved by Wigmore.

The score in the same match last year was 2-1 in favour of Oxford.

IAVOUR OF Oxford.

COSOPO UNIVERSITY: T Vilgmore (King)s. Macclessield, and Christ Church). 'R Salier (King Estate) V. Southerspon, and St Edmund Hell, S Mackey (Elzabetic Cologe, Guernary, and Persbroke). 'S Liddle (Habertastens) Asses & Estres, and Worcoster). 'A Minson (Oxecsiend University and Balliot, capasis), If Edwards (Lincoln), S Grimthe (Wings, Croylon, and Lincoln), S Grimthe (Wings, Edward V., Southerspion, and Manabels). M Hostin (Sir Willes). Bothers's and Keltis). 'G Barnbury (ROS Help Wycorbic and Event, 'J' Ralph (Aylanbury GS and Brasenous, sale 'D Meel, Wenter School and Lincus).

ACYAL NAVY: Cpl A Thompson (Rint), LI K Brantile, LI D Ward (Gignar), Li G Thomas (sul). CPO S Powel), Light N Center, LI R Thurston (Rint), LI Ward (Gignar), Light R Dawy, LE Martey, Unipires, Spl J Pasis (Combined Service) and P Royael (Bucks and Curch).

The state of the s

DAY FLEX

Cascarino

FOOTBALL

is ready to sign for Chelsea

By Dennis Signy

CHELSEA will today ex-Scottish defender they bought from Motherwell for £800.000 last summer, for Tony Cascarino, the Republic of Ireland forward who cost Celtic £1.2 million when he moved from Aston Villa in July. No transfer fee is

Cascarino, aged 29, who played for Gillingham and Millwall before Graham Taylor brought him to Aston Villa for £1.5 million, has scored only four times for Celtic in 28 appearances, many of them as a substitute.

The arrival of Cascarino. who will partner Clive Allen, Chelsea's recent acquisition from Manchester City, raises questions about the future of Kerry Dixon at Stamford Bridge. The former England international, who is only ten goals behind Bobby Tambling's record 202 goals for Chelsea, is out of the side with a heel injury, but, like Cascarino at Celtic, has found goals hard to come by this season. Cascarino will be eligible to play against Shef-field United in the fifth round

Brady, meanwhile, is change Tommy Boyd, the happy to have acquired another international for his squad, particularly, with Europe in mind for next season. Boyd can play anywhere in the back four or in midfield.

Another Scot moving nearer home is Jim Leighton. who completes a £200,000 move from Manchester United to Dundee today. The goalkeeper, aged 33, who spent a bitter-sweet four years with United said after joining the Scottish first division leaders: "I have joined an ambitious club and look for ward to Premier League football next season.

The Aston Villa right back, Chris Price, has rejoined his old club, Blackburn Rovers; in a £150,000 deal. Price, who was originally with Hereford, was with Blackburn for three seasons before leaving for Villa three years ago. He is due to play in tomorrow's

some of the £150,000 banked from their FA Cup run to buy Brian Carey, a central defender, who has been on loan from Manchester United.

Derby to review their security

By Dennis Shaw

DERBY County are carrying out an immediate and urgent when the Football Association is about to arrange for upgrading of their match security following an incident after the 4-3 FA Cup fourth-

secretary and general hundred. The mister was telescored to er, confirmed that a home... Stride, the Villa secretary, supporter had gained entry to the visitors' dressing and had said "no formal complaint would be made". He said: the visitors' dressing and had been forcibly ejected.

The episode also carried worrying possible side-effects for Les Sealey, the Aston Villa goalkeeper, who had been involved in a verbal dispute

with the supporter. Although there is no suggestion that Sealey was to blame for the incident, he was certainly involved in an argument with the fan at a time

ation is about to arrange for his personal hearing to answer a charge of bringing the game into disrepute.

round defeat by Aston Villa
on Wednesday.

Michael Dunford, the club

Ron' Atkinson, the Villa
manager, said yesterday that,
as far as he was concerned. Ron Atkinson, the Villa manager, said yesterday that, "We are leaving the matter in Derby's hands."

☐ Rotterdam: PSV Eindhoven, the Dutch league leaders, have signed Hans Westerhof to replace Bobby Robson, the former England manager, at the end of this season. Westerhof, who is coaching at FC Groningen, has signed a two-year

Palace face busy time

THE season has gone sour on still have to get a few more Crystal Palace. Wednesday points to be safe," Coppell night's defeat in the Rumbelows Cup quarter-fi- happens for the rest of this nal left Steve Coppell's side season will have its affect next with little, apparently to play for, but it may still be an eventful time at the club (Peter Ball writes). Problems on and off the field have yet to

be resolved. "With the premier league coming next season, we have stay. "I don't want him to to be sure to be in it," so we go," he said.

said. "But I think that what season." Speculation has it that Palace will release their most prized assets once safety has been achieved. Andy Gray is the only player on the transfer list, but he is one that Coppell would seem to like to

CRICKET

CASTRIES, St. Lucia: Geddes Grant Trophy: Windward Islands 101 (38.1 overs): Guyans 94-9 (36.4 overs: T Kanlish 4-12). Guyana won on faster run

rate. HYDERABAD: One-day international: Pakisizan Under-19 222-9; England Under-19 148. Pakistan won by 74 runs.

CYCLING

CYCLING

TOUR OF ANDALUCIA: Third stage 195.8m): 1, M Elliotr (GB), Shr 25min 21sec; 2, M Fondriest (R); 3, S Sunderland (Aus): 4, R Harmeling (Neth); 5, M Gayant (Fr), same time. Overall: 1, M Martinez (Spi), 10:14:34; 2, H Daz Zabela (Spi); 3, N Stephene (Aus): 4, Villenueva (Spi); 5, A Fuerta (Sp), same-time. British placing: 7, Ellion, 4sec behind.
COPENHAGEN: Six-dey-, race: Final placings: 1, D Cark (Aus) and U Frauler (Switz), 298;61s: 2, E de Wilde and S Tourne (Bel), 247; 3, one lap behind, J Veggarby (Den) and P Bracolette (II), 384; 4, B Holenweger and W Stutz (Switz), 241, 5, nine laps behind, J Worre (Den) and K Khrabzzev (CIS), 217.

FOOTBALL -

OLYMPIC GAMES: Qualifying tourna-ment: South American group A: Peru 3, Venezuela 0; Colombia 2, Brazil 0.



Wasmeier sets the early pace

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

In another French resort,

English competitors were an-

gered as controversy contin-

Val d'Isère: Markus Wasmeier, the winner of one downhill on the World Cup tour this season, had the fastest time in yesterday's first day of training for the Olympic downhill. The German negotiated the steep, twisting "Le Face de Bellevarde" in 1 min 52.64 sec.

Four French skiers were among the top ten but Wasmeier, who won the downhill at Garmisch-Partenkirchen, in Germany, last month, was one of the few tuck going through of proaching the finish line. His time was .23 fo a second ahead of Guenther Mader, of

ued to dog the Olympics' luge and bobsleigh track. Organisers were forced to put up shades on several big bends of the La Plagne track to stop the strong sun melting the ice, a problem which

some team officials believe will cause headaches when luge races start on Sunday. The British racer, Nick

Ovett, was annoyed at having to dip in and out of the covered coveres, which are nels by the white shades, as training with each group slidthey are almost certain to be ing their two daily training removed on Sunday to im- runs before the next group prove the view.

"The way it is organised I could face my final four training runs today and tomorrow under the shades and then they could take them up for the race," he said. "They should start the training earlier and the problem would be solved.

"You see the bends differently under the shades. And I can't get coached because the coaches can't see. They haven't got x-ray eyes," Ovett said after complaining to an official

The men's singles racers nave been put into groups

Russians protest Yeltsin deal

FROM DAVID MILLER IN COURCHEVEL

THE game of Russian political roulette continues. Vitaly Smirnov, the International Olympic Committee vicepresident who formerly was senior member for the USSR, was confirmed at yesterday's session here as member for the Russian Republic The duel between rival National Olympic Committees continues, never mind the recent agreement between Boris Yeltsin and Juan Antonio

Samaranch. The unofficial Russian NOC, which, together with 11 other republics of the new Commonwealth of Independent States, had already app-

lied for IOC recognition, is resisting the Yeltsin-approved switch by the former USSR NOC to represent Russia. Vladimir Vasin, chairman of the unofficial body, claims that Samaranch and Yeltsin have no right to override an internal domestic matter.

The situation is likely to cause embarrassment at the meeting of the 12 independent NOCs in Lausanne on March 9. Smirnov, having the status of vice-president, will have to come up with an offer of compromise that is acceptable to Vasin.

Awaiting the outcome, among others, is Dr Alex

Kaufman, a former Moscow fencer and businessman who acquired Australian citizenship some years ago. His shoe manufacturing company. Kay Cee, which has an office in Moscow, is sponsoring the United Team at this year's two games to the tune of \$170,000, in the form of footwear for both teams. Kay Cee supplies the Russian fishing industry and workers in Siberia with specialist boots that can withstand temperatures of minus 60 C. But the Kay Cee contract, formerly with the USSR ministry. Gossport, is now invalid and

Simon Barnes in Detroit

Getting their kicks at human pinball

ootball — the world's game played with a round ball, as opposed to the American game played with a pointy one — has long been a useful vehicle for exploring the cultural divide. For 20 years and more, football has been on the verge of

Now, with the World Cup taking place here in 1994, it still hasn't happened. America still doesn't have a professional outdoor league — and as for that indoor stuff we hear about, that is a heretical travesty of the true footballing faith. and God defend us from

So, being an intrepid investigative journalist, I risked contamination and went to a temple of schism called the Cobo Centre in downtown Detroit last veekend, and I watched the Detroit Rockers play Day-ton Dynamo. The Rockers conceded a goal in the last second to lose 13-15. Brace yourself: I am afraid the goal was worth two points. Well, had it been struck on the far side of the yellow line, it would have been

worth three. The game bears as much relationship to outdoor football as ping-pong does to lawn tennis. Ping-pong happens to be rather a favourite game of mine. It requires lightning reflexes, quicksilver skills, an explo sive nature and a taste for raw violence. So does indoor football, though there is rather more physical contact.

Let us not confuse six-aside American indoor soccer with five-a-side footy in

a British gym.

This game has a strong cousinship with ice hockey. and it is played in a similar space. You get the ball in the air, a goal eight feet high, constant substitutions and a referee

schooled in the art of

"It's a very physical game indeed," Andy Chapman, once with Arsenal and now player and assistant coach with the Rockers, said. The announcer kept referring to him as "Superman". "American audiences like a physical game. Referees let a lot go." And so players are slammed into the boards and get two-minute penal-ties. The Norman Whiteside tradition of the sharpened elbow is in magnificent shape here and, meanwhile, the ball rico-

devil. There are frequent passages of play with five shots in 20 seconds. Human pinball. This is, in short, a terrific ame. It is played at a terrific pace: players perform in explosive two-minute bursts and are then substitued, in order to breathe. The goalie dives about like a mad thing getting any available bit of anatomy in the way. For a moment, I even thought it was time I the sticks.

chets as if possessed by a

The indoor game was invented because it is impossible to play outdoors when the ground is frozen solid all winter. But it grew, and indoor professional foot-ball continued when the professional outdoor game became extinct.

But let us get things in perspective. This remains a fairly esoteric pursuit, and one with precarious finances. The Detroit game at the weekend was watched by a couple of thousand, mostly children. The franchise loses money: it is reckoned that only one team of the nine in the National Professional Soccer League comes close to break-even. The sit-uation is just as troubled in

the rival organisation, the

"The game has a long way to go, and the old guard, traditional foothalling people, they really hate it," Chapman said. "But this is not supposed to be outdoor football. It is an American sport, and it is played by the best indoor players in the world. I have national teams, against teams from top European clubs — and we've never

"The game makes different demands. A player can be so-so outdoors and faner way round. What's more, I reckon any outdoor player in the world would find his ball-skills improved after a season indoors."

The Rockers were all keen to stress that this is not poor man's football, but a game in its own right. "This is a league for Americans, with innovative rule changes," Steve Paxos, the League's commissioner, said. These include three-point goals, a rule to prevent back-pass-ing, and a sin-bin. "We are in the entertainment business, and we have a good product," Chapman said. Selling it is another thing.

The game probably does a great deal of harm to the World Cup organising com-mittee's desire to have the United States taken seri-ously as an emerging foot-ball nation. People love to get snobby about their chosen sport.

Cricket people see base-ball are a heresy; rugby union people see rugby league and gridiron foot-ball as heresies. Well, anyone who gets sport and religion that confused is in deep trouble. The Detroit Rockers are playing their guts out and keeping the faith, in their own way.

SNOOKER

Semi-final place for Hendry

BY PHIL YATES

STEPHEN Hendry appeared more preoccupied with Steve Davis than the high standard of snooker which took him into the semifinals of the Benson and Hedges Masters at Wembley Conference Centre yesterday. Hendry beat Dean Reyn-olds 5-1, then said he did not

think Davis was playing anywhere near his best. "He says he is playing the best snooker of his career but I don't see it like that. He is talking positively to give himself confidence and it is work-

ing," Hendry said.
"He is trying that bit extra
when he plays the likes of me,
Jimmy [White] or John [Parrott], but against other players he isn't utterly convincing."

☐ The European Open has been switched from Rotterdam to Antwerp to maximise television exposure.

RUGBY UNION

Dear moves on to Harlequins

By David Hands, rugby correspondent

SIMON Dear, the England B lock, announced yesterday that he is joining the wellworn trail to Harlequins.

He does so at a critical time for Rosslyn Park, his club for the last four seasons, who play Thurrock for a place in the quarter-finals of the Pilkington Cup tomorrow but whose prime concern is survival in the first division of the Courage Clubs

Championship.

Dear, aged 29 and a policeman; is by no means certain of a first-team place with Harlequins. Competition regulations mean that he would be ineligible for cup matches this season and for four of Harlequins' six remaining

league weekends. He is therefore depriving himself of senior rugby at a time when he has just regained a place in the England development squad and is

seeking a place on the Eng-

by former Rosslyn Park locks. Neil Edwards and Paul Ackford, both of whom have won international honours with Harlequins. He emphasised it was a purely personal decision. "I believe I need a new

land B tour of New Zealand

this summer.

Dear follows the path taken

challenge and that this can only be achieved by changing clubs," he said. "Although I could have waited until the end of the season, I felt it was in everyone's best interests that I made the move now."

Richard Moon, the club captain of Rosslyn Park, echoed feelings expressed by Sar-acens, another London club to have lost leading players.
"We have to ask who has

encouraged him to go now?" he said. "Players who have toiled year after year at the Park are bound to query what is going on."

FOR THE RECORD

STOCKHOLM: International Indoor meeting: Men: 60m: 1, M Writherspoon (US), 6.73sec; 2, P Heard (US), 8.77. 800m: J Gray (US), 1mln 45.06sec. 1,500m: J Gray (US), 1mln 45.06sec. 1,500m: J Gray (US), 1mln 45.06sec. 1,500m: J N Morpaul (Mp), 35.57; 2, D Kbet (Ken), 3:40.53; 3, J Seakes (GS), 3.40.53; 3,000m: J M Kūpaula (Ken), 7:43.32; 2, P Donovan (re), 7:53.08. 60m hurdles: D Nelson (GB), 7:78sec. Pole vault: S Bubba (CIS), 5:31m Long jump: 1, C Lewis (US), 8:49; 2, L Starks (US), 8:34 Triple jump: M Bruzika (Latvie), 17:29 Women: 60m: I Privatova (CIS), 7:11sec. 400m: I, S Farmer-Panick (US), 53:71. 2, O Nazarova (CIS), 53:78. 1,500m: 1, N Artiomova (CIS), 4:13 S2. 60m hurdles: J, N Gngoryeva (CIS), 8:03sec; 2, L Yurkova (CIS), 8:05; 3, J Edwaran (Switz), 8:07 High jump: S Kostadinova (Sui), 2:00m LONGMOOR; Army cross country chemplonships: Men (6:2 miles), G Wade (38th Engineer), 3:1mm 13sec. Teatris: Prince of Wales Cvm, 17:pts. Woman (3:1 miles): L Hogs (HC, BACH), 16:17: Teatris: Belefeld Garnson, 47

BASKETBALL MATIONAL CUP: Semi-finals, first leg:
Themes Valley 100 (Chasels 21, Licyd
18), Leccester City Riders 81 (Brown 24);
Worthing 78 (Balker 28, Heron 21),
Kingston 83 (Herian 24, Irah 18)
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Detroit Pistons 102, Milwaukea Bucks 94;
Marm Heat 125, Golden State Warners
124, Seattle SuperSonics 95, New Jersey
Nets 85; Cleveland Cavaliers 110, Philedelphia 76cer 108; Boston Calics 98,
Houston Rockets 85; Orlando Marcic 109,
Minnesota Timberweives 102, Phoenix
Suris 126, Chicago Buts 114; Los Angeles
Lakers 100, Los Angeles Clippers 85;
Secramento Kings 100, Utah Jazz 98.

Venezuels 0; Colombia 2, Brazil 0.
Lats results on Wednesdey
FA CUP: Fourth round: Bristol Rovers 1,
Liverpool 1; Derby County 3, Aston Villei 4
(Villa away to Swindon Town); Ipswich
Town 3, Boursemouth 0 (Ipswich home to
Bristol Rovers or Liverpool); Norwich City
2, Midwall 1 (Norwich home to Norts
County); Oxford Linted 2, Sunderland
(Sunderland home to West Ham). Fourth
round reptays: Manchester Linited 2,
Southampoon 2 (ae4, 22 effer Umite, round reptays: Manchester United 2, Southampton 2 (set, 2-2 after 90min; Southampton won 4-2 on pens and travel TODAY'S FIXTURES

Barclays League Third division Stockport v Huddersfield. Fourth division

Crewe v Carlisle

FOOTBALL

GM Vauxhall Conference Kidderminster v Colchester (8.0) BASS NORTH WEST COUNTIES | TENNIS: Women's satelifia (Swa

RUGBY LEAGUE.

YOUNGERS ALLIANCE: First division:
Braciford v Hull KR, Leeds v Hairfax;
Olonson v Hul; Warnington v Wigan,
Second division: Kerghley v Leigh;
Sheffield v Hunstet. OTHER SPORT BADMINTON: Bulgarian Vintages sonal championships (Torbey).

onal championships (Torbey). SNOOKER: Benson and Hedges Max

to Botton): Sheffleid United 3, Chariton Athletic 1 (United sway to Cheisen). RUMBELOWS CUP: Firth round replay: Nottingham Forest 4. Crystal Palace 2 (Forest play Tottenham in aemi-finals). AUTOGLASS TROPHY: Southern saction: Cuarter-final: Sloke 3, Weisel 1. TENNENTS SCOTTSH CUP: Third round replays: Duntamiline Athletic 3, Forfar Arhetic 7 (Uniternifine home to Hearts): Heart of Micliothian 3, 3t Mirren 0 (Hearts away to Duntermine): Stiring Albion 0, Dundee 1 (Dundee sway to Falkirk). PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Leeds 3, Botton 1; West Bromwich 0, Everton 0, Second division: Huddersfield 1, Grimsby 0; Middlesbrough 0, York 1: Port Vale 7, Preston 1; Wigen 1, Burnley 0. Middlesbrough 0, York 1: Port Vale 7, Preston 1; Wigen 1, Burnley 0. Northfleet 0. Southern division: Hythe 1, BeaZER HOMES LEAGUE: First division: Cubridge 2, Walton and Hershum 1. Locities Cup: Dorking 3, Herrow 4; Molcasy 4, Stevensge Borough 4 (aet; Molcasy 4, Stevensge Borough 5 (app. Millied) 0, Cruchaster College 1: Gunnersbury, Brentford 2, St. Joan ch. Arc., Rockmansworth 1; Winstassiey College, Wigun 0, Ellesmere Port 0, South East



Clare Wood: winner in Wellington tennis

Magaz ke irre

SAN LORENZO, Algarye: Longshot-Hotel Done Philips pro-em: Third round: 215: C Cox (West Essex), 216: M Studds (Formby Golf Centre): H Boyle (Royal Wimbledom). 220: N Brown (Mid Herts). 222: D Scholes (Stand). 225: C Detoy (Coombe HB); J Chilles (Glenbervie). ICE HOCKEY

CHAMONDK, France: Pre-Clympic inter-national: United States 2, Sweden 2 NATIONAL - LEAGUE (NHL): New York Rangers 4, Pittsburgh Panguna 3; Detroit Red Wings 4, Washington Capitals 1; Teronto Maple Leafs 3, Minnesota North Stars 2; Edmonton Otters 2, Miontrial Canadiene 1; Calgary Flames 5, Ousbec Northques 3; San Jose Sharies 5, Chicago Blackhawks 2

RUGBY LEAGUE

RUGBY LEAGUE

STONES BITTER CHAMPIONSHIP:
Third division: Chorley 9, Huddersfield 26, 1975 Semi-final: Chester Coll 6, Loughborough Univ 32.

UAU CHAMPIONSHIP: Semi-final: Chester Coll 6, Loughborough Univ 32.

UAU CHAMPIONSHIP: Semi-final: 'eeds Univ 20, Hull Univ 18

BRITISH POLYTECHNICS CUP: Semi-final: Leiceseir Poly 18, Stationshire Poly 34, Leeds Poly 17

BRITISH COLLEGES CUP: First round: Edge Hill Coll 34, Botton Institute 38.

UK CORRUGATED MERTI LEAGUE LEGE HILL THE SE STUDENT RUGBY LEAGUE CONFESS Sational Univ 24, Manchester Poly 8.

STUDENT RUGBY LEAGUE CONFESSE SHUDENT RUGBY LEAGUE CONFESSE Huddersfield Poly 29, Lancaster Univ 32: Nottingham Univ 16, Leicester Univ 58.

HEINEKEN WELSH LEAGUE: First division; Cardill 14, Swansea 36, SCHWEPPES WELSH CUP; Fitth round; Pontypridd 50, Pontypool Utd 8 SQUASH RACKETS KUWAIT: Liberation Cup: First round: Jahangi Khan (Pak) bi A Taol (Kuw), 9-0. 9-1. 8-0. A Barada (Egypt) bi D Sistie (it), 9-5. 8-10. 7-9. 10-8. 8-5. J Cromble (Can) bi M Rathid (Egypt), 9-6. 9-0. 9-3. A E Ghareeb (Kuw) bi J Jewell (US), 8-1. 8-10. 8-1. 9-3; M Meclean (Soot) bi T Ownsid (Kuw), 9-1, 9-3, 9-4; A Khalifa (Egypt) bi S Younis (Kuw), 9-4, 9-1, 9-3; S Frienz (Gerj

RUGBY UNION

Country Championship: Kent 3, Essex 1.
SPANISH CUP: Quarter-finals, first leg:
Sporting Gión 2: Logrones 0: Athletic Ribse 0, Attlético Madrid 3: Seville 0.
Deportivo Corufs 1.

GOLF

SAN LORENZO, Algarve: Longshot-Hotel Done Philips pro-am: Tridrotend: 215: C Cox (West Essex): 216: M Studds (Formby Goff Centre): H Boyle Rovel Winshedon): 220: N Brown (Mile)
Sudds (Formby Goff Centre): H Boyle Rovel Winshedon): 220: N Brown (Mile)

N Model (S Ambia): 10-8: 9-9, 9-4: N Bronetal (Fr) bt S Alshamati (Kuw): 9-9. 9-9: A Hebbi (Ornan) wo T Marcel (Leib): scr. C Dittmer (Aus): bt A Majed (Kuw): 9-3: 9-0. 9-4. TENNIS

has to be renegotiated.

AMAGASAKI, Japan: Second round: Asian Open women's tournament: K Habaudova (C2) bt M Endo (Japan), 6-2. R McCullian (Australia) bt T Tistagi (Japan), 6-4, 3-6, 6-2; K Okamoto (Japan) bt N Myagi (Japan), 3-6, 7-8, 6-4; K Date (Japan) bt A Sugyama (Japan), 6-1, 5-7, 6-3.

by N. Nayagi (Japan), 3-6, 7-8, 6-4; K. Date (Japan) bi A. Sugyama (Japan), 6-1, 5-7, 6-3.

ESSEN: Women's Indoor tournament: First round: A. Karak (Ger) bi L. Garrone (II), 2-6, 6-3, 7-6; B. Rittner (Ger) bit S. Cacotini (It), 6-2, 6-4; M. Onemans (Neth) bif M. Kolcha (Ger), 6-4, 6-3; K. Nowak (Pol) bif P. Ritter (Justine), 5-7, 7-8, 6-1; S. Appelmans (Bel) bit P. Paffer (Justine), 5-7, 7-8, 6-1; S. Appelmans (Bel) bit P. Paffer (Ger), 6-4, 7-5. Second round: A. Huber (Ger) bit C. Kohde-Killach (Ger), 6-1, 6-1; Bill. A. Thoms (Ger) bit I. Endi (C2), 6-4, 3-6, 7-6; G. Proje (Croatia) bit C. Cerstil (II), 6-2, 6-4, J. Hiasek (C2) bit A. Agassi (US), 6-2, 6-4; O. Camporeste (II) bit T. Nijsaan (Neth), 5-7, 7-5, 7-5, Second round: A. Chenkasov (C5) bit A. Volkov (C5), 7-6, 7-5, J. Sánchez (Sp) bit S. Bruguera (Sp), 0-6, 8-0, 6-2; Pripte bit P. Korda (C2), 7-6, 6-1; G. haniseave (Croatia) bit P. Hasartusk (Neth), 5-4, 6-3; P. McErroe (US) bit G. Forgat (Fr), 7-6, 2-6, 7-6; S. P. McErroe (US) bit G. Forgat (Fr), 7-6, 2-6, 7-6; S. P. McErroe (US) bit G. Forgat (Fr), 7-6, 2-6, 7-6; S. P. McErroe (US) bit G. Forgat (Fr), 7-6, 2-6, 7-6; S. Pasecsolde (II) bit Sanchaz (Sp), 6-4, 3-6, 6-3. W. Basur (Aus) bit T. Wissken (US), 6-4, 3-6, 6-3; C. Brassoh (Gar) bit F. Clavel (Sp), 6-3, 3-6, 5-7, 6-7, 5-7, 6-8, 6-1; G. Brassoh (Gar) bit F. Clavel (Sp), 6-3, 3-8, 6-0; B. Gilbert (US) bit J. Stashova (C2), 6-3, 6-0; C. Toleetica (N2) bit P. Orassova (US), 3-8, 6-0; C. Toleetica (N2) bit P. Orassova (US), 3-8, 6-0; C. Toleetica (N2) bit P. Orassova (US), 3-8, 6-0; C. Toleetica (N2) bit S. Hack (Gar), 7-6, 3-6, 6-0; C. Toleetica (N2) bit S. Hack (Gar), 7-6, 3-6, 6-0; C. Toleetica (N2) bit P. Orassova (US), 3-8, 6-0; C. Toleetica (N2) bit P. Orassova (US), 3-8, 6-0; C. Toleetica (N2) bit P. Orassova (US), 3-8, 6-0; C. Toleetica (N2) bit S. Hack (Gar), 7-6, 3-6, 6-0; C. Toleetica (N2) bit S. Hack (Gar), 7-6, 3-6, 6-6; C. Toleetica (N2) bit S. Hack (Gar), 7-6, 3-6, 6-0; C. Toleetica (N2) bit S. Hack (Gar), 3-6, 6-3, 6-3, 6-2; F. Fauli

PARTICIPATE AND THE PARTICIPATION OF THE PARTICIPAT Piquet and

Prost out

ALAIN Prost and Nelson Piquet will not be driving in Formula One this year. The drivers, both world champions three times over, have failed to come to terms with a sport that is no longer hostage to drivers and their financial demands.

Piquet is thought to have asked \$5 million for his services. A number of teams declined; they preferrred to go for the young bloods from Formula 3000.

Forget ousted

Tennis: Patrick McEnroe beat Guy Forget, the French Davis Cup hero, 7-6, 2-6, 7-6, leaving the Milan indoor tournament with just three seeds. ☐ Clare Wood and Monique

Javer, of Britain, reached the quarter-finals of a women's tournament in Wellington, New Zealand. Wood beat her fellow-Briton, Sara Gomer, 4-6, 6-4, 6-3, and Javer defeated Denisa Szabova, of Czechoslovakia, 6-3, 6-0.

Syed prospers

Table tennis: Matthew Syed, a late contender for a place in Britain's Olympic team, moved nearer Barcelona after a narrow escape and two good wins in the qualifying competition in Bolzano, Italy, yesterday. Syed almost fell at the first hurdle when he was match point down to the Swiss international, Thierry Miller, but won 22-20 in the final game and later beat the talented Italian, Lorenzo Nannoni, in straight games.

Angol prepares

Boxing: Derek Angol has given up the British cruiserweight title in readiness to contest the WBO championship — probably against Yuri Vawlin, of Russia, in London.

Thomas omitted Bowls: Will Thomas, chosen

to represent Wales at singles in next summer's world outdoor championships, has been omitted from the Welsh indoor team for the home international series Debt eased

Rugby league: Oldham club, £600,000 in debt, has sold its

training ground to a builder for £240,000. Record at stake Lacrosse: Cheadle, league

leaders and Flags champions, may see an end to their twoyear unbeaten record when they face Stockport in the Flags semi-final on Sunday. Stockport held Cheadle to a draw before Christmas and lost to them by only one goal in last year's Flags final. Heaton Mersey and Sheffield Steelers meet in the other semi-final tomorrow.

THE * TIMES SVOLUS SEVER

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FOOTBALL 31

Games threaten to be an expensive chaos

FROM DAVID MILLER

s I sit on the hotel balcony, gazing west at Mont Saulire, it is an exquisite picture: jagged snow-capped peaks set against a blue sky, statuesque pines, and sump-tuous wide ski slopes of perfect whipped-cream snow bathed in sunshine. Eastwards behind me lies the cobweb of Haute Savoie valleys and potentially the worst chaos in Olympic history.

Nobody knows whether the Winter Olympic Games of Albertville, uniquely and possibly disastrously spread over 15 competition sites at 13 towns and villages across 600 square miles. can escape catastrophic transport thrombosis and generic communication disorganisation. Worse still, nobody knows whether the Games venture will save or further damage the 900-

year-old community of mountain farmers and cheese-makers.

I confess to being uncertain, even afraid, that for the first time in 36 years' involvement with the Olympics. I am out of control, unable to ascertain fully the intricacies of what is happening of the fortunes being risked, unable to judge whether the mammoth Olympic machine is any longer to the benefit of mankind apart from a few sportsmen.

The Games, which begin tomorrow, are a logistical horror. We have sensed the probability since that day in Lausanne in 1986 when the International Olympic Committee (IOC), denying Paris the Summer Games in preference to Barcelona, awarded France the Winter Games as compensation. The reality is infinitely more disorganised than we have feared for the past six

"If the co-ordination doesn't

improve, the Games will be a spectacular failure," André Bardin, the mayor of Tignes, host to freestyle skiing, has said.
Journalists with the responsi-

bility of informing the world what is going on are already distraught with transport restrictions, conflicting administrative information, sheer fatigue. And the Games have not begun.

In an ominous, almost prescient way, these Games are both a reflection and an embodiment of the political and economic confusion of today's world: of Russia, of Yugoslavia, of north-east Africa. On the one hand, they may be seem glamorous; on the other, they teeter upon the

I cannot wait to witness the men's downhill race on Sunday at Val D'Isère - if I can get there - or the captivating contests of the figure skating, if I can get permission to park my car, pro-



viding the ignition switch has not again frozen solid.

I am chanvinistically hoping that Mark Tout can win Britain's first bobsleigh medal for 28 years, yet is it really moral that the bob run at La Plague should have cost \$41 million and that

for artificial freezing should threaten the enviro

Jean-Claude Killy and Michel Barnier, the applicants and the ringmasters of Albertville, claim to be protecting the fragile eco-system of Savoic. Water purifiers and rubbish incinerators are included within the \$1.7 billion investment that has transformed the road and rail access to the region; yet the bid for the Games was never anything but ambi-tious tourism expansion of L'Espace Killy. And this is the man who could become a presidential personal nominee as a

member of the IOC. Will Savoie be made or bankrupted by the Games? Brides-les-Bains, site of the main competitors' village, has spent \$40 million on a new cable car and other facilities. Pralognan, a viltage of 160 souls, has spent \$1 million on a 5,000-seat stadium

for the demonstration sport of curling. These and other communities are scared stiff about clearing their costs.

s you approach Albertville along the new highway from Chambery, there is a sulphuric yellow haze against the mountainside from the steelworks. The town's 18,000 population now bas. courtesy of the Games, a new theatre, an indoor shopping pla-22, and hotels that have to survive after February 23 when the last of the 800,000 spectators

Here in Courchevel, it is as though Charles de Gaulle airport had been erected on the mountainside, though the jungle of concrete was there long before the Games. There really is a mini-airport cut into the rock alongside the piste at 8,000

drive down to the opening ceremony at Albertville, whether I will be allowed, not having a special pass, to drive back up the valley to the hotel where I am paying £120 a night, and the first welcoming words on arrival were the demand: "Your credit card". without so much as s'il vous

Everyone is in a frenzy to recoup the investment. The price of a cup of coffee at the IOC's hotel is such that I shall soon have spent £100 on coffee. Just down the hill yesterday, they were erecting the podium for the ski jump medals. There was a gathering of enthusiastic children watching, and the mood was reminiscent of Jour de Fête. The nightmare here is that the Albertville Games really will be as though perceived by Jacques

Southampton have the nerve for a shoot-out

Key figures opt out of United's responsibilities

FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT

SOUTHAMPTON, though they did not play specifically for penalties, were relieved when their FA. Cup fourthround replay at Old Trafford reached the end of extra time on Wednesday night. They were wholly convinced that they would be the survivors in the ancient tournament's most modern innovation.

Their belief was evident. Even though the dreaded shoot-out was to be staged leainst the potentially tracting background of the Stretford End, the main bank of Manchester United's sup-Southampton's five chosen men nor the rest of their

colleagues assembled on the halfway line displayed any overt signs of apprehension. Naturally, Neil Ruddock, Alan Shearer, Barry Horne and Micky Adams in turn expressed their own personal relief as they wheeled away, having successfully fulfilled their duty, but Southampton's encampment wore a collective smile throughout

the ordeal. United's

constrastingly subdued group were frowning even

before Neil Webb missed their first attempt. The difference in attitude was decisive. Whereas Alex Ferguson earnestly consulted each member of his line-up to find out who might be prepared to accept the onerous FIFTHOUSE,

elega v Sheffield United rtemputh v Middlesbroug Porsmouth v Amicoestrough Swindon v Aston Villa Norwich City v Notta County Bolton Wandersers v Southampto Sunderland v West Ham United Nothingham Forest v Bristol City Ipswich Town v Bristol Rore

Liverpool Ties to be played Feb 15 or 16

knew that he had, at least, able and willing to pass the individual test of nerves.

Notably, United's most experienced candidates - such as Bryan Robson, Mark Hughes and Brian McClair - were not selected. Instead the youths were put on the spot, Denis Irwin and Lee Sharpe kept the club marginally in contention but Ryan Giggs, the youngest of them

all, had his effort saved. Poignantly, their recognised penalty-taker, Steve Bruce, is recuperating from a hernia operation on the sunlit coast of Florida, Southampton deliberately left Matthew Le Tissier until last in case the scores were still level and the coolest of heads required amid the mounting tension. Le Tissier, described by his

manager as "the joker" has yet to miss a penalty. He was ultimately spared and Branfoot believes that no one should have to undergo the cruellest of experiences. "I'm

dead against it," he said, "and so are 99 percent of people in the game.

"Nobody is totally happy with the system but the Football Association introduced it and we can't influence that decision. I would rather stay with the old way. I would not mind coming to Old Trafford again, although it is an awesome and forbidding place even when it is empty."

The police's insistence that replays may be staged only with 10 day's notice largely influenced the FA's new polig dody ai gues that the tournament might otherwise run into severe fixture congestion. Yet, as Branfoot agrees, the method, used on four occasions so far this season,

unsatisfactory. What alternative is there, though? It has been suggest-ed that extra time could be sudden death with the winners being the first team to score. The proposal is more attractive and ties would thus be concluded in a fairer fashion but can the additional period be indefinite and ex-

tend beyond midnight? Ferguson appreciates that United's championship ambitions are likely to have been enhanced because their programme has become lighter. Semi-finalists in the Rumbelows Cup against ei-ther Middlesbrough or Peter-borough, they will now play on average six games a month until the end of the

Dexter detects change is close

FROM ALAN LEE CRICKET CORRESPONDENT IN WELLINGTON

A COMPLETE switch to four-day cricket in the county championship could be a reality by next year, according to Ted Dexter, chairman of the England committee.

Dexter, who is in New Zealand watching the final Test match, is optimistic that the reactionary attitude of a number of county clubs on this perennial issue has softened as a result of the superficial and contrived three-day games that have predominat-

ed in the past two years. A Test and County Cricket Board (TCCB) working party, chaired by Mike Murray, of Middlesex, is at present investigating the overall structure of the domestic game and will present its recommendations to a special meeting of the board in May.

When the working party was initiated, county chair-men gave a verbal undertaking that they would adopt its findings rather than filing them in the pending tray, as has happened with two previous such reports.

Dexter, who has been among the most vocal campaigners for a change to four-day cricket, remains doubtful whether radical recommendations will find favour within an overwhelmingly conservative body, but he believes his own ambitions for the county game may soon be realised.

"I detect a genuine change of heart in certain counties over four-day games," Dexter said. "They looked out of the committee room window and saw that a lot of three-day cricket was not of good standard, not competitive and not conducive to producing Test players."

Immediate support for Dexter's view has come from Bob Bennett, the England tour manager. Speaking in his role as chairman of Lancashire, a county previously set against a four-day champ-ionship, he said: "We have had a rethink on the matter and I agree there is a genuine swing within counties who opposed it in the past." Dexter attended a pro-longed round of committee



Padded cell: Ian Botham, in his 100th Test match, waits to bat against New Zealand in Wellington yesterday. Photograph: Graham Morris

meetings before flying out to join the touring team but he will not be back in England in time for the spring meeting of the TCCB next month, when he himself comes up for re-election. "I have been given dispensation to miss the meeting in order to follow the World Cup," he said.

Durham suffered the second casualty of their Zimba-

"We have lost players with

Berry, the former Yorkshire player, joined his fellow spin-ner, David Graveney, with a six wickets after Mark Briers split hand.

Berry needed three stitches, leaving Durham with only the occasional bowler, Gary Brown, in the spin depart-ment. The former Middlesex player seized his opportunity by taking three for 26 in ten overs against Zimbabwe Under-19 at Old Hararians.

The home side were all out for 152 and Durham won by and Paul Henderson, the England under-17 player, shared an unbeaten stand of 105,

SCORES: Zimbabwe Under-19 152 (G Wighem 3-10, G K Brown 3-26); Durham 155-4 (M P Briers 63 not out, P W Henderson 36 not out).

Stewart's day, page 30

Player sue the

By MARTIN SEARBY

IN THE first action of its kind in the sport, Phillip Robinson, the former Yorkshire batsman, is planning to sue the Test and County Cricket Board (TCCB) for restraint of trade. His solicitors are awaiting counsel's opinion before taking the first steps in an action that could have farreaching repercussions for

the professional game. The issue centres on the TCCB's two categories of players. Counties may sign two of those on list A in any five year period, while those

on list B are unrestricted. Robinson, aged 28, wanted to leave Yorkshire at the end of last summer, but the fact was offe contract put him on list A. Yorkshire have since withdrawn their offer but, despite an appeal to the TCCB registrations sub-committee. he remains a restricted player, and counties are unwilling to use up one of their options on a solid county batsman even one with a first-class average of over 36 - rather

than a Test match player. Robinson will find a good deal of support from the Cricketers' Association, the players' union, which is seeking an overhaul of the legislation. Tim Curtis, the chairman, said: "We think the procedure needs reviewing and we have a meeting coming up with the board about it. The irregularities tend to favour the counties, and the people_of particular concern to us are young players who cannot get first-team cricket and want to move, but cannot. We recognise the intent behind the rule but the situation is far from ideal, with the board at the moment rulemaker and arbitrator."

The problems were summed up by Kim Barnett. the Derbyshire captain. "If we had the funds we would certainly be interested in a batsman like Robinson, but not if he was a category A player," he said. "We only have room for one, and you have to bear in mind that if a quality player comes on the market, such as Chris Lewis, you want to be in the

Swindon cup-tie to be screened SWINDON'S FA Cup fifthbe guaranteed a quarter United's defeat," the secre-

round tie against Aston Villa has been put back 24 hours so that it can be screened live on BBC at 3.05 on February 16. At 1pm that day BSkyB will screen the match between Ipswich and Bristol Rovers or

Rovers replay their fourthround tie at Anfield next Tuesday and the winners will share of the £240,000 television package.

Bolton's game against Southampton is also on the Sunday, but has been passed over by television. "We were advised to switch from the Saturday for possible screening, but the TV companies must have changed their minds after Manchester

tary, Des McBain, said.

Dean Saunders, of Liverpool, could face an FA charge of misconduct after television caught him elbowing Ian Alexander, the Bristol Rovers defender, in the face on Wednesday night at the Twerton Park cup-tie.

Maskell a master of well-chosen word

BY ANDREW LONGMORE TENNIS CORRESPONDENT

ONE story says everything about the unique commentary style of Dan Maskell, who has announced his retirement after 62 years of broadcasting at Wimbledon. NBC, the American network that televises the championships, eavesdropped once on the BBC's coverage. When they tuned in, there was nothing. Just a picture and silence. Then, after perhaps a minute, one word, uttered quietly, authoritatively in that deep voice steeped in English summers: "Superb".

Not for Maskell the overkill, the hype or glib verbosity. No need for a stack of adjectives when one would do. Superb. Or even. "oh, I say", his stock-in-trade response to a thrilling pass or a glorious return. Like John Arlott, Richie Benaud, Henry Longhurst. Peter Alliss, the really great broadcasters, Maskell had that "come sit beside me and enjoy the match" tone, at once comforting, enthusiastic

and informative. If there was a technical point, nobody was better qua-lified than Maskell, formerly coach to British Davis Cup and Wightman Cup teams, to make it. But he never presurned his listeners to be ignorant. He came into their homes for a fortnight each summer, but never intruded.

"You have to have something special to do that," John Rowlinson, producer of the BBC's Wimbledon coverage and deputy head of BBC Sport, says. "The voice was obviously important, but I think people liked his honesty and they felt he could teach them things about the game." To the surprise of even those closest to him, there will be no more "superbs" or "oh. I says" this summer. True to his prediction that he would always know when the time was right to give up. Maskell has retired on the spot. Understandably, after not missing a day at Wimbledon since 1929 - he had to leave early one night when his voice began to go - he wants to

enjoy a summer without work, wants to sit in the stands with his friends, wants to see more of his family, to take a summer holiday. At the age of 83, he has earned it. But, though he will not say so, perhaps the enjoyment has faded. Certainly, the thought of unshaded afternoons in the Spanish sun at this summer's Olympics was not appealing. Nor was the increasing dominance of brawn over brain in the men's



Maskell: the best

a strategic approach to the game. Bill Tilden, Jean Borotra and Rod Laver. It's more brute strength now," he says. In his pantheon of greats, Maskell would number John McEnroe, "a near genius but a sporting tragedy", Rod Laver, "my epitome of a great champion". and Martina Navratilova, "the greatest of them all". But when the 1992 championships start, Maskell is quite as likely to be out on court 14 watching two British players. "I have missed not being able to do that," he

miss on June 22nd? "The BBC's sausage rolls. They were the best in the business." Which come to think of it, is a fair description of the man himself.

says. But what else will he

Women take centre stage

By DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

WOMEN'S rugby, presently undergoing an increase in numbers that has yet to be reflected by the commercial interest which surrounds the men's game, enjoys the high-light of its season on Sunday. The sixth meeting between Wales and England takes place, for the first time, in the National Stadium at Cardiff Arms Park, a venue that not even the women's World Cup final enjoyed last season.

The game is booming in a way that has created problems for its administrators. Ten years after the formation of the Women's Rugby Foot-ball Union (WRFU), 2,500 students and seniors play regularly and this season alone there have been 22 clubs formed. The established women's clubs are running vouth teams to cope with girls attracted to the game after playing new-image rugby. The WRFU, after a confer

ence last month, has mounted a fact-finding mission in concert with the Sports Council to explore the benefits of affiliation with the Rugby Football Union. Because they, too, are at the heart of the burgeoning international game, the WRFU is concerned that demands on administrators will increase.

In the meantime England, World Cup finalists, are out to protect their unbeaten record against Wales, who field a new-look team including five newcomers, four of them in the back division of a XV captained by the experienced Lisa Burgess. England's one new cap is Jackie Edwards. the Blackheath centre, and Emma Mitchell has been

coaxed out of retirement to play scrum half.

As a prelude to the Rice Challenge Cup meeting, the countries played for the first time a student international at Oxford on Wednesday. England winning 14-3.

WALES. J Thomas (Badtord Harmers), W Shaw (Lampated), J Jones (Blankur Gwent), E Davies (Richmond), P George (Richmond), S Porter (Cardiff), Life Caux (Cardiff), T Weer (Cardiff), E Branc (Cardiff), B Davies (Lampater), J Horgan (Porshpool), M Evres (Waspel, F Margarteon (Cardiff), C Marris (Cardiff), E Bungets (Santones, captain).

Budgates (Santones, captain).

Brigates (Santones), J Selvends (Buchheath), G Prantones (Richmond), D Frantos (Richmond); K Almond (Waspe, captain), E Michel (Santones); J Mangitam (Richmond); S Waschholz-Dorrington (Richmond); S Waschholz-Dorrington (Richmond).

More rugby, page 31



How did Churchill drink so much and survive?

IFE & TIMES

Mercedes

MOTORING Why the Princess of Wales chose a

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 7 1992

Somerville girls

One of Oxford's last women's colleges is about to throw 113 years of peace and harmony out of its mullioned windows.

Who dares to let the men in?

VALERIE

GROVE

INTERVIEW

he Somerville girl has done well. She is forceful, independent and outspoken. But then she has much to live up to. She knows she may become a prime minister -Somerville uniquely boasts four (Mmes Thatcher, Gandhi, Bandaranaike and Meir) — a writer like Iris Murdoch, Rose Macaulay or Dorothy L. Sayers; a Nobel prizewinning scientist like Dorothy Hodgkin; she may turn out to be a Shirley Williams, a Dilys Powell, an Esther Rantzen: Somervillians all.

'If you met a Somerville girl',' as Dr Mary Archer "you would know she would be THE

seriously dever." "I think Somerville made us all quite unafraid," says Victoria Glendinning in what must be described as ringing tones. "I've never met a Somerville girl who was

may

Sue

afraid of the world." So is this creature oing to take men lying down? She is not. Would women of their spirit look on while "immature, obnoxious young

take half the places? Would Eleanor Rathbone MP, or the withering broadcaster Marghanita Laski, or the BBC's matriarchal Grace Wyndham Goldie have allowed it?

There is certainly something about the air in Somerville. Its very name, called after Mary Somerville, the pioneering Victorian mathematician and astronomer. mainematiciais aummery, villagey, suggests a summery, villagey. ice. auite for the male. And while other bastions have fallen - Girton, St Anne's. St Hugh's, Lady Margaret Hall - Somerville is not going to go without a fuss. Across its lawned quadrangle today, every window is festooned with red and black stickers: "Somervillians say" NO." On Wednesday night, an emergency motion at the Oxford Union — "This House would keep men out of Somerville" - was carried clamorously, 512 ayes to 109 against.

Letters from Somervillians to the papers this week expressed shock and dismay, headlined, "A lesson in betrayal." What betraval? There were two. First, whenever the college has been balloted, it has voted to cling steadfastly to its single-sex status, along with St Hilda's, which now becomes the very last redoubt.

Secondly, this final capitulation was decided without consultation. The girls each received leaflets announcing a meeting with the principal last weekend, but by Monday the news of the decision was already public. The meeting on Monday was highly charged. Mrs Catherine Hughes, Somer-ville's principal, had to listen to eloquent and impassioned speeches from the floor. When Mrs Hughes departed, there was even a slow handclap.

lice Walton does not look like a Somervillian in the Thatcher tradition. She is slight, quiet-voiced and handbag-free, and when she arrived from her Hull comprehensive she was overawed. But, in her third year, she has learnt the Somervillian virtue of confidence, and hers was one of the published

"We have nothing against men. We enjoy Oxford life," she says. Our point is that until the men's colleges have equal numbers of women - that would be real equality in the university - we must keep women's colleges, and all they stand for."

Somerville stood for a peaceful haven for her, after her co-ed school. Unlike the women who are in the minority in former men's colleges. Somervillians do not need a Women's Tutor or a women's committee to represent their interests. They need not worry about ugly behaviour by male undergraduates, or the awkward aftermaths of affairs with fellow students on the same staircase. For the moment, Somerville has no such tensions. "There is a sense of harmony here. Everyone can feel it." Alice says. "It just seems fantastic to us that when the government launches Opportunity 2000, an institution like Somerville should think of reducing women's places, and the academic posts open to women, without consulting us."

All true. The college, of course, has its reasons, discussed behind

closed doors. The facts are incontrovertible. Somerville has lost its cherished intellectual pre-eminence at the top of the Norrington table. Women's colleges all began to slide the moment King's College Cambridge decided to open its doors to women in 1969. The men's motives were plain: sheer altruism, of course, to increase women's opportunities. If they improved their standards thereby, that was luck. They knew the women's colleges were turning away women deverer than some of their men; now they could plunder the supply. Now the women's

colleges are having to turn to male fellows, because there simply not enough women in university posts. Also, a college reasonably wants to be its students' first choice, not to have to

resort to the pool of bright but unplaced applicants. But whatever Somerville's deliberations, the de-

cision was "agon-ising" for the college. Dr Catherine Duncan-Jones, of the governing body, tells me so, and she has

has been a diehard against change for 25 years, until now. She is not in the least surprised that the girls are upset. "They are loyal to the institution and I share their feelings. They feel mistrustful, but they cannot know all our reasons. It was not a cruel and arbitrary decision. There was no ease or comfort in it, And it is nothing to do with liking or not liking men. But it is done. And although my

Dame Janet Vaughan, the former principal, was more unequivocal about it, declaring that the time had come. "I think it's very exciting," she said this week. Dame Janet, now 92 and long retired, is regarded with reverence by all Somervillians of the post-

One of them, the writer Margaret Forster, who was offered scholarships in history by both Oxford and Cambridge, says she chose Somerville because its whole ambience seemed to be permeated with Dame Janet's spirit: artistic. idiosyncratic, faintly bohemian. "At my interview, she sat in a sunny room filled with flowers and gave us a happy meal served in scallop shells.

"Years later I watched her on television talking about her work in blood transfusion and the metabolism of radioactive isotopes and the treatment of pernicious anaemia, and being there at the liberation of Belsen, and it made me think: 'What have I done with

This is what women's colleges have, and what future generations will lose. A continuum of scholarly women, inspiring bright girls, who then inspire the next batch of bright girls. In 1894, Jane







Spirits of Somerville: (from left) Dame Janet Vaughan; Dame Iris Murdoch and Margaret Thatcher







The teachers and the taught: (from left) Esther Rantzen, Dr Mary Archer and Margaret Forster able to some. Mary Archer says



"Until the men's colleges have equal numbers of women, we must keep women's colleges, and all they stand for": Alice Walton (centre foreground) leads a protest

raduate in animal morphology. One of her last Somerville students was Dorothy Crowfoot (later Hodgkin). Among Dorothy Hodgkin's students was Margaret Thatcher; and so on. Dame Janet, born 1899, the niece of one of Somerville's founders, spans Somerville's entire history.

'She very much set the tone," Esther Rantzen says. "She was not terribly impressed by undergraduates who sat around or just socialised. She felt one should use every minute and use it well." One year, one of Esther's theatrical productions, involving a naked vestal virgin, was banned by the dean, a story that made all the tabloids. "Dame Janet did not mind a bit. The tickets sold out."

Somerville, although millions in the red, like all women's colleges, now boasts a splendid new Marwas with Oxford university, she: seems to retain her loyalty to Somerville. As soon as she arrived in 1943, "a plump, pale, solemn girl of 19", as the novelist Nina Bawden recalled her in the anthol-; ... can inspire a shudder — the image

ogy Mv Oxford, she joined the Conservative Club. Nina was , shocked. She had joined the Labour Club herself, and told Margaret that people from their backgrounds, both grammar school girls on state scholarships, had been lucky to get into Oxford, and should not use their good fortune simply to join the ranks of the privileged. "I pointed out that the Labour Club, besides being on the side of the angels, was also more fun. All the really lively and interesting people were members.

Margaret smiled her pretty china doll's smile. Of course, she admitted, the Labour Club was more fashionable — a deadly word that immediately reduced my pretensions. Unlike me, she was not 'playing' at politics."

Other than its predilection for success, Somervillians are not garet Thatcher conference centre, truly a type. "Other people endowed by its eponymous thought we were. But we quite a alumna. However disaffected she mixture." says Victoria Glendinning: One of our group joined a closed order of nuns. She took my copy of Lolita, and never

The ethos of women's colleges

huddled over mean gas fires, brewing cocoa - or a room-ofone's-own sense of freedom. Margaret Forster says of her Somerville scholar's room, with its mullioned windows overlooking cedared lawns, "I wanted that room more than I wanted anything out of the women's movement." But Glendinning married in her second year, to escape "the shrill shricks of female voices in hall each evening, and the smell of stale talc. There can be something quite oppressive, as well as liberating, about the company of women." But now she looks back with gratitude for the company of all those startlingly bright girls. "I went back recently to speak at high table and there were all these very old, noble faces, of women who had ted incredibly worthwhile

omervillians want to cherish their history, and I can understand their feelings. When my college, Girton. - 10 years older than Somerville first opened its doors to men, it seemed a recklessly generous move to us. We knew so well what a battle it had been to get a women's college founded in the teeth of male opposition. As M.C.-Bradbrook, then mistress of Girton, said — rightly — "I know: you feel amputated from your

But our founder, Emily Davies. always insisted on no special treatment for women, no special exams, we must do as the men. If King's opened its doors to women we must open ours to men. Historical fact renders this notion illogical, but now Girton has had 12 years of male undergraduates' tramping feet, and undergraduates boast its 50-50 men/women ratio. It is not the same college. It is no longer so special. The Girton girl, as parodied in Punch cartoons, has gone. But the men do sing with fierce pride of the valiant Victorian virgins who "fought so well and played well, as everybody knows" at the college's annual feast, under the portraits of the bonneted lady benefactors who could never have imagined that one day the situation would arise where women would offer up their hard-won places to men.

As Glendinning says, it had become a source of pride that Somerville stayed firm. "When colleges started going mixed it seemed dashing to have girls at Wadham and Christ Church. Now it seems much more radical and daring to resist the pressure." But the old Somervillians agree it is inevitable. They all speak of "the tide of history". We can't have female ghettoes, however comfort-

of rows of women in tiny rooms she is relieved by the decision: the do is to invite men in to Somerville college would otherwise struggle

and show them how to behave. as a beleaguered minority, pre-Older Somervillians may not forgive their college. They will back Alice Walton and her occupied with defending its status. Esther Rantzen agrees. She cannot imagine her daughter applycontemporaries in a just and noble ing to a "quaint" women-only college. As for tales of sexual cause. But I fear it may be another of Oxford's lost ones.

Oxford men, page 5

| INSIDE | |
|---------------|-----|
| Arts | 2. |
| Times Present | .4, |

aggression, she says, the thing to

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SPRING LOADED: The shrush celebration of contemporary British dance gets underway with a programme leakuring a new piece by Darshan Singh Buller, choreographer of the acclaimer Shock Absorber for Proonic Dance Company, together with new works by Michael Popper, and Christopher Steel & Suzy Blok. The season begins at the Queen Elizabeth Hall and continues at The Place from April 11. April 11. Queen Elizabeth Hall, South Benk, London SE1 (071-928 8900), tonight,

AND LAKE: Following the success of its new Romeo and Aiflet, Northern Bellet Theatre has come up with a new production of Swan Lake.
Choreographed by Dennie Wayne and designed by Lez Brotherston, the production is directed by Christopher Gable, who has a line eye for dramatic detail. Swan Lake receives its world premiere in Lecks, before moving to Blackpool on February 18.
Grand Theatre, Upper Briggate, Lests (1532 455351), tomorrow, 7.30pm.

BROADWAY TO BERKELEY SQUARE: Plenist and vocalist Ke Nichols, one of Britian's leading Nicrols, one of Britain's leading supponents of regime lazz, presents a programme of music inspired by the musicals of the Twenties and Thirties, His bend features committed tight His bend features committed tight Fallweather, sexophonist Randelph Colvete and guitarist Paul Sealey. Purceif Room, South Bank, London SE1 (071-928 8800), tonight, 8pm.

ERIC CLAPTON: The veteran rocker ERIC CLAPTON: The veteran rocker continues on the road with tracks from his recent live aboun, 24 hights, and with a respectable line-up including guitar player Andy Fairwasther Low. He begins an extensive run at the Albert Hell from Wednesday.

Arena, Broughton Lane, Sheffield (0742 582002), tonight, tomorrow, 7.30pm.

M ANGELS IN AMERICA: Strong performances in Torry Kushner's longish but vigorous drams: Aids, religion, collites autorities politics, everything. National (Cottesioe), South Benk, SE1 (071-928 2252), Tonight, tomorrow, 7.30pm. 210mins.

☑ BECKET: Riveting performances from Derek Jacobi and Robert Lindsay in Anouth's play on the reletionship between Thomas à Becket and Henry II. Theatre Royal, Haymarket, SWT (071-930 8800). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed, Sat, 3pm. 165mins.

THE CABINET MINISTER: Derek Newto and Meureen Librari in a snob-bari, largely unfurny Pierero comedy. Albery, St Martin's Lene, WC2 (071-867 1115), Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Wed, Sat, 3pm. 150mins.

THE COTTON CLUB: An Impression of the Harism nightspot-night on energy, low on story insafeses. Aldwych, The Aldwych, WC2 (071-836 8404). Mon-Fri, 7-30pm, Set, 8pm, mate Wed, 2.30pm, Set, 4pm, 150mins.

☐ DANCING AT LUGHNASA: Brief Li DANCING AT LUGHNASA: Bran Friel's Obvier Award-winning memory-play, set in 1930s Donegal. Garrick, Charing Cross Road, WCZ (071-494 505). Mon-Sat, 3pm, mats Thurs, 3pm, Sat, 4pm. 150mins.

FAITH HEALER: Stirring performances in Brian Friei's early play (four monologues) exploring a heater doubts and sporadic powers. Royal Court, Sloane Square, SW1 (071-730 1745). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat 8

GOOD ROCKIN' TONITE
Satisfying musical celebrating Fifties

Duchess, Catherine Street, WC2 (071-494 5075). Mon-Thurs, 8pm, Fri, Sat, 8pm and 8.45pm. 130mins.

AN EVENING WITH GARY

NEW RELEASES

DEATH IN BRUNSWICK (15): Sem Nell as an egeing mother's boy sucked into love, violence and accidental murder. Tasty black comedy from new Australian director John Ruans.
Cannon Tottenham Court Road (071-636 6148) Metro (071-437 0757).

dence team entertain troops in three wars, only to be rulned by a synthetic script. With Bette Midder, James Caan; director, Mark Rydell FOR THE BOYS (15): Song-andscript. With Bottle Micker, James Lazu drector, Mark Rydell. Camden Parkway (073-267 7034) Odeons: Kensington (0426 914696) Wast End (0426 915574) Whiteleys (071-792 3332).

THE PLEASURE PRINCIPLE (18): THE PLEASURE PRINCIPLE (18): Tangled affairs of a philandering journalist (Peter Firth). Flewed corned; that seems left over from the Swhiging Stoties; writer-director David Cohen. Cannons: Futhern Road (071-870 2536) Oxford Street (071-636 0310) Piccadilly (071-437 3561).

URGA (PG): Nikita Midhelkov's mesmerising rim about civilisation encreaching on the Mongolism steppes. The top prize-vinner at last year's Venica Film Festival.
Curzon Mayteir (071-465 8865). LES VALSEUSES (18): Gerard

Departieu and Patrick Deware in 1 as two leds with idle hands. Timely revivel of Bertrand Biler's ferocious, amoral, snook-cocking 1974 romp. Cennon Piccadilly (071-437 3561). CURRENT

♦ THE ADDAMS FAMILY (PG): Testy feast of black jumour, inspired by the ITEL ADDAMS FAMILT (FG): [881] feast of black humour, inspired by the 1960s TV epic-off from Charles Addams's mecabre carbons. Starring Reul Julis, Anjelica Huston, Christopher Lloyd; director, Berry Sonnerfield.
Cannon Chalses (071-352 5096) MGM Troposition (071-354 0031) Charles Trocadero (071-494 0031) Odeona: Kenaington (0426 914686) Mezzanine (0426 915683)

BLACK ROBE (15): Seventeenth century Jesuit (Lottelin Bluteau) tries to convert incliens in northern Cuebec. Intelligent epic from Brisn Moore's novel. Director, Bruce Berestord.
MSM Trocadero (071-434 0031) Piezza

THEATRES

WEEKEND EVENTS A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Kari Knight

XERXES: Nucholas Hylmen's bright, clean production of Handel's Xerxes makes a trumphest return to the English National Opera repertoire, revived by Julia Hollander. A strong

performance is preceded by an introductory talk given by Dr Andrew Jones from Selwyn College Cambridge and soprano Katy Tansey at 5.30pm in the crypt of 5t Marthi-h-the-Fields.) Collegum, St Marthi-h-1

LES NEGRESSES VERTES: Following their recent success as the first foreign band to play in Behrut for over a decade, the group are back on these shores showing influences more diverse than ever. Multicultural but unmistalably French, they mix world pop, African rhythms, size and famenco, adding a death of gypsy

and Stoles pop classics. Great stuff. Strand, Aldwych, WC2 (071-240 0300). Mon-Thurs, 8pm, Fri, Sat, 5.30pm and 8.30pm, 215mins.

MURMURING JUDGES: Devid Here teckdes our rotting legal system: gape in the contest but a powerful bout.

National (Olivier), South Benk, SE1 (071-928 2252), Tonight, tememow, 7.15pm, met tememow, 2pm, 165mins

CI PAINTING CHURCHES: Side Phillips (secellent) and Leslie Phillips as an eldenty Boston couple, Joste Lawrence their artistic daughter in a quietty touching family play. Playhouse, Northumbertand Avenue, WC2 (071-839 4401), Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Wed, Set, 3pm. 120mins.

T PHANTOM OF THE OPERA:

Gleeful version of the old thriller; tunes by Offenbach, Verdi and Weber but not Lloyd Webber. Shaftesbury, Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2 (071-379 5385), Mon-Fri, 7-30pm, Sat, 8-30pm, mats Thurs, 3pm, Sat, 5pm, 150mins.

THE RIDE DOWN MT MORGAN:

Arthur Miller's disappointingly one-aided play where Tom Cooti argues the case for bigsmy. Wyndhard's, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (071-987 1116), Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Thurs, Sat, 2.30pm, 150mins.

SOPHISTICATED LADRES: Twelve single-dancers whill through the music of Date Ellington, Obvious routines cannot disguise the true rueful Duke. Globe, Shaftsebury Avenus, W1 (071-

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of

films in London and (where dicated with the symbol 4) on

release across the country.

♦ BLAME IT ON THE BELLBOY (12):

Mistaken Identities in Venice.
Impersonal, machine-tooled, old-feashloned farce. With Dudley Moore, Richard Griffiths, Patey Kenstt, Wmerderor, Mark Henman.
Cannons: Chelses (071-352 5096)

Camnons: Cheisse (071-352 5095) Oxford Street (071-836 0310) Odeons. Kansington (0426 914666) West End (0426 915574) Whiteleys (071-792 3332).

BOUDU SAVED FROM DROWNING

BOUDU SAVED PHOM DROWNING (PG); Welcome revival of Jean Renoir's enerciate pestorale (1832), with Alchei Simon as the unregenerate tramp clasped to the bourgads bosom. Plus Jean Vigo's surreal view of school days, Záro de conduite (U). Renoir (071-837 8402).

♦ COUPE DE VILLE (12): Three

DELICATESSEN (15): French video

cannicetable bucher, with bothraque Pinos, Murie-Laure Dougnae. Cannonic Chelsea (071-525 5096) Tottenham Court Road (071-536 6148) Gate (071-727 4043) Metro (071-437 0757) Screen on the Hill (071-435 3986)

DOUBLE IMPACT (18): Jean-Claude Van Damme, the "muscles from Brussels", as two twin brothers

righting wrongs in Hong Kong, Leme action movie. Director, Sheldon

Odeon Marble Arch (0426 914501) Plaza (071-497 9989).

♦ FRANKIE AND JOHNNY (15):

LES NEGRESSES VERTES:

PHILHARMONIA: In his first concert as the orchestra's new principal guest conductor, outstanding young German conductor, Claus Peter Flor conducts conductor, Claus Peter Flor conducts Haydn's Symphony No 6, "Matin" and Beethoven's Mees in C. The programma also includes Mendelssofm's Piesso Concerto No 1, performed by the French penist, Coole Ousset. With solouts Namcy Argenta, Susan Bickley, Preip Langradge and Michael George, and the Philharmonis Chorus. Feethyst Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (071-528 8800), Ismorrow, 7.30pm. BOXIBNEMOUTH SINFONIETTA-The remarkable percussionist Evelyn Glennie, deal since the age of 12, is the soloist in a Contemporary Music Network tour of Cominic Muldowney's new Percussion Concerto, James Machillan's equally new Tryst, Stravinsky's Danses Concertant Prokotlev's Classical Symphony Proceeds & Sasses Symptomy
Tamas Vasary conducts
Arts Centre, University of Warwick,
Coventy (0203 524524), temperow,
7 30pm, Bridgmorth Leisure Centre,
Northgate, Bridgmorth, Shropetere (0748
761541), Sun, 7 30pm.

LONDON SYMPHONY
ORCHESTRA: The orchestra's programme begins with a safity — in the context of large-scale orchestral concerts at any rate — in the form of J.C. Beatr's Symphony for double orchestra, Op 18 No 1, and includes Kyung-Wha Chung in Brahma's Violin Concerto. Ever eager to promote the music of his American homeland, Michael Talson Thomas also conducts stave Reich's Three Movements, described by Thomas as "an saxtemely propulsive, jazzy, simos! Caribbean sort of piece".

Barbican Centre, Sik Street, London EC2 (071-838 8891), Sun, 7.30pm.

CAMDEN CHOIR: in celebration of its 20th year, Julian Willemson conducts the choir in a concert entitled "Four the choir in a concert entitled "Four English Queens". Combining the music of Byrd, Purcell, Rubbra, Vaughan Williams and Britten with the words of Spenser, Shakaspeare, Tennyan, Coward and Betjeman, the programme illustrates the reigns of Queens Elizabeth Jand II, Amra and Victoria, Hampetesd Parish Church, Church Row, London NW3 (071-722 1265), tomorrow, 7,30cm.

THEATRE GUIDE LI A SWELL PARTY: Four singers, two planets in Blooble tribute to Cole Porter's wit and way melodies. Vaudeville, The Strand, WC2 (071-836 9987). Mon-Fri, Bpn., Sat, 8.30pm, mats Wed, 2.30pm, Sat, 5.30pm, 140mins. Jeremy Kingston's assessment of current theatre in London House full, returns only Some seats available

El TALKING HEADS: Patricle Routledge and Alan Bennett succiliari three of his monologues charting the unconscious humour and pain of

Describe Ivea. Comedy, Panton Street, SW1 (071-857-1045). Mon-Sat, Spm, mats Wed, 3pm, Sat, 4pm. 150mins. ATRIBUTE TO THE BLUES BROTHERS: Lively perade of tuneful

oldies. Good fun. Whitehall, Whitehall, SW1 (071-867 1119). Mon-Thurs, 8.15pm, Fri, Sat, 6.15pm and 9pm, 120mins.

1119) Mori-Iriza, d. Lapin, Pri, Sac, 6, 15pm and Spoi, 120mins.

LONG RUNNERS: Z. Aspects of Lower Prince of Wales (071-839 5572)... Z. Blood Brothers: Phoenici (071-837 1044)... Z. Buddy: Victoria Palace (071-834 1317)... Z. Carmen Jones: Old Viz (071-925 7816).

E. Cats: New London (071-925 7816)... E. Catrien Jones: Old Viz (071-925 7816)... Z. Carmen Jones: Old Viz (071-925 7816)... Z. Carmen Jones: Old Viz (071-925 7816)... E. Flora Guye Named Most: Lyric (071-494 5045)... Z. Flora Guye Named Most: Lyric (071-494 5045)... Z. He and My Girk Adelphi (071-836 7811)... E. Len Misérables: Palaca (871-434 0036)... Z. Mises Salgon: Theeline Royal, Onay Lane (071-494 5400)... Z. Return to the Phanetton of the Opera: Her Majesty's (071-694-5400)... Z. Return to the Principle Cambridge (071-879 5293)... Z. Starlight Express: Apolio Victoria (071-828 8565)... The Next Generation: Ambelsandors (071-836 6111)... Z. 77th Woman in Black: Fortune (071-836 2236)... Fortune (071-836 2238). Ticket information supplied by Society of West End Theatre

wary waitress (Michaile Pfeitfer). Synthetic adaptation of Terrance McNaBy's plays Director, Garry

Rarbican (371-636 9891) (2mnons Baker Street (071-935 9772) Fulharo Road (071-970 2636) Empire (071-497 9999) MGM Trocadero (071-434 0031)

HORS LA VIE (15): Masterly account of a French hostage's life in the turnol of Bekut. Starting Hippolyte Girardot; director, Mercun Bagdadt. Cannon Tothenham Court Road (07)-836 8148) Screen on Baker Street (07)-835 2772).

JFK (15): Ofiver Stone a contentious, electrifying, three-hour drame about the Kennedy assessmention, Kevin Costner as crusading D.A. Jim Garrison; a busting

crusading D.A. Jim (Sertson; a Dusway supporting cast. Barbican (071-538 8891) Camden Perkesy (071-567 7034) Casnon Fulham Road (071-370 2836) Empire (071-497 9999) Notting Hill Coronet (071-727 5705) MGM Trocadero (071-434 0031) Screen on the Green (071-225 3520) Whiteleys (071-792 3332). LIFE IS SWEET (15): Mike Leigh's

♦ COUPE DE VILLE (12): Three varning brothers travel cross-oountry in a 1954 Cadillac. Breezy bland of road move, male-bonding comedy, and 1960e nostagie. With Patrick Dempsey, Arye Gross, Daniel Stam; director, Joe Roth. Casmons: Fullham Road (071-370 2636) Partion Street (071-930 0631). droil, farcical, everd-winning cornedy about a North London family's ups and downs. Staming Alison Steadman. Premiers (071-439 4470). LITTLE MAN TATE (PG): How and whizzkids Jesnel and Caro's wonderfully bizarre fantasy shout a houseful of tenants living above a cannibalistic butcher. With Dominique

LITTLE MAN IT IS (*1-5). How and tow not to reer a child prodigy. An engaging young player (Adam Henn-Byrd) and sertable direction (Jodie Foster) easily offset the facile moments.

Carnon Cheisse (071-352 5096)

Odeons: Haymarfost (0426 915353)

Kensington (0426 914866) Whiteleys (071-792 3332).

MISSISSPPI MASALA (15): Incliant displaced from Ugunda to Mississippi tret over race and young love. Sharp insights, but soggy at the centre. Starning Sarita Choudhury, Denzel Monthly Mississippi g Sarita Choudhury, Denzel ngton. Director, Mira Neir. n West End (071-439 4805).

RIFF-RAFF (15): Welcome return of Ken Loach's manyellous, scruffy "slice of life" portrait of a building-site crew; voted "European Film of the Year".

Reinvention of a cold seducer

OPERA

Don Giovanni Covent Garden

GIVEN the way that Figuro and Cost have passed across this stage under his hands, nobody can have expected the Don Giovanni that completes Johannes Schaaf's Mozan-da Ponte threesome to stake out the work's claims as opera buffa. No, the feeling is big, black, oppressive and cold cold, cold. The only laughter of the evening comes from Don Giovanni -a sudden, powerful reinvention of the part for himself from Thomas Allen -and it is a harsh, cruel mockery directed at all the Leporellos of this

world who expect to be snug. The aura of the production owes a lot to Peter Pabst's sets, which have a tilt of beautifully projected sky on a great panel up above, but which are dominated by high, black and featureless walls. Black is the main colour of the costumes, too, with all the gentry looking like anxious courtiers of the Spanish Hapsburgs, so that the tumble of creams, azures and browns with the arrival of the peasants is a very welcome breeze of life.

Many different configurations of the walls are possible (though the technical side of the production was a bit rough on the opening night), none more effective than the narrow channelling of entrances and exits straight down the middle of the stage in the garden scene towards the end of the first act. The arrival of Giovanni and his bevvy of longhaired minders (the same ones who

THE attention span of the average

New York audience these days seems hardly longer than the duration of Andrew Lloyd Webber's song "Mem-

ory": so there was something hero-ically foolhardy in the gamble the

composer took on Broadway last year.

After all, who could expect a buzz at

the box office for two-and-a-half

hours of pastiche Molière in rhymed

couplets, starting with a half-hour

monologue and ending on a decid-

edly glum, downbeat note? No wonder La Bête collapsed, and Webber and his associates lost the \$2 million

Still, he remained as undaunted as

the plucky puffer in his Starlight

Express. Here is David Hirson's play on this side of the Atlantic, still with

Webber money in it, still directed by

Richard Jones: and all my instincts, if

At times it is as if the poet Tony

Harrison, whose Misanthrope is the

wittiest translation I know, had

not all my brainbox, wish it well.

the play cost to stage.

are to make good his escape in the next scene) is a particularly powerful moment in a production lean in

Leporello's catalogue aria.

hear this singer creating a character so bleak and unengaging, finding the voice for such a chill and chilling soul. The man is a kind of insatiable realor. He knows hell before he gets there. When there are so many

Glyndebourne regulars on stage and of course in the pit, where mance full of demonic drive, incisive

dramatic braggadocio.

Most of the "ideas" similarly depend on extras. A female servant hangs around the spot where the Commendatore was killed (a rude stabbing by this scorner of human hopes and prefensions, not a duel), bringing flowers and kneeling in prayer, and it is to her that Elvira goes consolation at the end of

Rather similarly, Donna Anna has a confidente to whom, more than to Onavio. she addresses "Non mi dir". But the touch of female fellowship is weak without support in the music. There is also something ill-fitting

about the collection of human statues in the cemetery (one is just amazed that they can all stand so still, which is not really the point of the scene). and about the nude young lady gracing Giovanni's supper table: the piece is about seduction and conquest, not having it put in front of you on a plate. Much is said about the completeness of Allen's portrayal by the fact that his Giovanni is here for once

unsettled and confused, or seems unsettled and confused, bothered by an irrelevance. It is remarkable to

Bernard Haitink conducts a perforpoints of detail, and many moments

Don Giovanni (Thomas Allen): chilling, a kind of insatiable realot

of an opening beauty - one misses the possibilities of intimacy. Carol Vaness never slips a trick as Donna Anna: she is a magnificent blend of the imperious and the impassioned. Claudio Desderi offers a characteristically rich and appealing Leporello, and gets away with pretending this is Glyndebourne in his conversational manner (and in an unforgettable close to "Madamina". the one sexy moment in the whole

Hans Peter Blochwitz makes a fine case for Ottavio as a young man whose ardour is constrained by a

fierce sense of honour and proposity (again very much a Spanish figure). his singing is captivating and precise Marta Marquez is a lively, bright Zerlina, Bryn Terfei an udmirable. very sympathetic Maseito, and Roben Lloyd a luxury Commendatore Patricia Schuman, entering this giant east in place of an indisposed Karita Manila, will no doubt settlet her vulnerable fiame of an Elvira could be touching. The next performance, on Monday, will be broadcast live on

PAUL GRIFFITHS

DONALU ECOPER

A passable pastiche

evening).

THEATRE

La Bête Lyric, Hammersmith

discovered a new Molière comedy and stylishly updated the language. At other times - well, let's admit that the play is not up to the best standards of an era when concision, clarity and the neo-classical virtues held sway. Molière himself is the hero, gratuitously disguised by the anagram his enemies used. Elomire, and played

with furrowed zeal by Jeremy Northam Picture his dismay when his company's patron, Timothy Walker's mincing Prince Conti, insists that one Valere becomes Muir to his Norden or Galton to his Simpson.

Not only is the interloper patently untalented; not only does he make tactless personal remarks; he cannot be stopped from fake-bashfully advertising his pseudo-genius. Not many actors could sustain the narcissistic burble for three uninterrupted minutes. The brilliant Alan Cumming grins, squirms, mugs, squawks, flaunts and smugly grovels for a bravura 25; and just about brings it off.

Just about, not absolutely. Molière himself would surely have found some defter way of cracking the old problem of how to make a bore unboring. and have clipped the play's surplus fur more rigorously thereafter.

The evening has not generated all the laughter it could by the time Cumming's Valère has given Walk-

er's Conti a chance to reassess his art

by tripping onstage in breastplate and skirt, a blend of Maucaulay's Horatio and Cinderella's ucly sister. Nor are the artistic issues as well defined as they might be, given an onstage patron who one moment appears to have dabbled in the advanced deconstructionist critics. and the next seems just a phillistine

Richard Hudson's set, a stately room whose geometry is 45 degrees askew, and the Alice-in-Wonderland acting of some of Jones's east do not altogether help. The sharpest Mohere productions tend to be realistic. understated, not to signal their characters' eccentricies with outrageous costumes, camp gestures and silly walks. Nevertheless, neither the play nor the production remotely deserved the biffing they took on Broadway. London should give them a qualified welcome.

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

Galling Romans

THEATRE

Caesar and Cleopatra

Greenwich "MY STORIES are the old stories," Shaw once said, "my stage tricks and suspense and thrills and jests are the ones in vogue when I was a boy." This

is often evident in Caesar and Cleopatra, with its conspiracies, secret stabbings, death-defying escapes, and last-minute rescues. It is an exotic melodrama that has been recycled in the Shavian truth-factory: an old story, annexed for the new ideas its author wished to propagate. Not that you would guess so from Matthew Francis's production, which neutralises most of the play's fun and excitement. The famous opening, in which Caesar encounters Cleopatra in the desert moonlight, loses its magic by occurring in what appears to be the Sainsbury family's latest gift to the nation. Thanks to this museumlike setting, the atmosphere remains cold, and is not enlivened by 19thcentury uniforms that can have seen action only in the local dry-cleaners. Alec McCowen's Caesar, with his

preposterous gold braid, might be an upmarket cinema commissionaire.

Caesar's character is the core. While the others busily expose their urbanely aloof, exuding progressive morality and practical wisdom. He is far-sighted, intolerant of convention, good-humoured, incapable of vindictiveness or cruelty, yet commanding when he must be. He is not merely an early example of what his author called the "superman": add an orange beard and a ginger suit, and he is an idealised version of Shaw

himself. The danger is obvious, and not always avoided by the usually excellent McCowen. He never sounded holier-than-thou when he was reciting St Mark's Gospel, but, despite some feisty moments, the Gospel of St George Bernard undoes him. There are times when his face becomes primly beatific, his voice takes on a pious tone, and the Shavian sermon begins, with or without hand-wring-

Altogether, opening night was a flattish occasion. The reliably comic Britannus - Michael Cronin in spats and wing-collar - failed greatly to amuse the audience with his parody little-Englandism; and other supporting performances spluttered. Only Amanda Root's Cleopatra kept her vitality; and she was sometimes too nearly the Terror of Cheltenham. Ladies College, the nervous girl who becomes the fully-fledged scourge of the upper sixth. The play merits more.

Import of no import

DANCE

Ballet du Nord Sadler's Wells

WISH I could write more warmly about this fringe company. I keep telling myself that we shall be entitled to be sniffy about it when a town such as Maidstone has its own ballet company. Whereas the British idea of a regional arts policy is to transplant existing companies, the French government and local authorities found the money nine years ago to set up a new company, primarily to serve northern France.

Noticing that the Channel was not far from its home, the company has been several times to various towns in Britain, and this week is at last showing its wares in London. Unfortunately, it earns only lukewarm commendation. The one work completely new to

Sadler's Wells is a staging of Mozart's Requiem by Jean-Paul Comelin, who took over as director last year. The City of London Choir, packed beneath the stage at the back of the orchestra pit, tackle the music with BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE spirit; a scratch group of solo singers work with variable success; and the

choreography includes every imag-

guished gestures, solemn posing. Given with this are two contrasted modern classics, but neither of them was particularly well done Bal-anchine's Apollo is performed in the truncated version which the chorcographer regrettably preferred shortly before his death. Gilles Reichen's account of the title role was bland and underpowered; his three muses could have done with more precision in their steps and their expressive qual-

ities too. José Limón's works are far less often seen here, so There is a time will have the attraction of unfamiliarity to most speciators. Limón's dances and Norman dello Joio's warmly colourful score both offer a set of variations based on the well-known text from Ecclesiastes ("to every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under heaven"). Not so well known, however, that most of us can remember the order of the contrasted purposes which are illustrated, some of them less explicitly than others. This is a ballet that cries out for surtitles, especially since the dancing has lost some of its meaningful edge since the company premiered it in

Cheltenham last year.
Patrick Meeus's lighting plots are simply dreadful: fidgety, vulgar and drawing attention to themselves with the same obtrusive fancy tricks all

JOHN PERCIVAL

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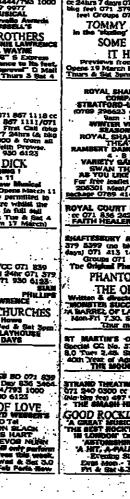
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| <u> </u> | ST MARTINES 071-836 1443. Special CC No. 379 4444. Evgs 8,0 Tues 2,45. SM 5.0 and 8.0 | "Extremely funny |
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Intensity tinged with compassion

GALLERIES

Richard Cork reviews a

retrospective of the work of Lucian Freud at the Tate Gallery in Liverpool

lthough Lucian Freud only makes rare appearances in the work he produces, his presence as the relentless observer is impossible to ignore. Throughout the retrospective survey at the Tate Gallery, Liverpool, which spans half a century of unremitting activity. Freud's gaze usually remains lasereyed. Once he has settled on the object of his scrutiny, nothing deflects him from investigating the forms with the zealous precision of a

Freud's style has changed, along with the people who submit themselves to his protracted stare. But the intensity of his hard, single-minded probing is manifested even in the most youthful section of

Among the early drawings, an ink and crayon self-por-trait encloses his 25-year-old features in contours steely enough to vie with Bronzino. His hair rises in chiselled tendrils from a face dominated by large, glacial eyes. This is a man already bent on rejecting lazy or sentimental looking in favour of a rigorous alternative.

He had no qualms, during the same period, about defining the rotted feathers of a dead puffin with as much care as his living subjects received. The open-beaked bird must have been a disquieting companion as it lay before him, half-wrapped in a blanket. But Freud insisted on lingering over his decomposed motif, specifying the minutiae of the puffin's broken body with meticulous

There was a moment, in the second world war, when Freud strayed from the primacy of observation and flirted with Surrealism. In a startlingly untypical picture called The Painter's Room, an out-size zebra swathed in red and vellow stripes thrusts his head through the window.

But the animal seems merely theatrical compared with the sustained emphasis, in the pictures hanging nearby. on appraising the thing seen. Freud must quickly have found this goal so absorbing that he had no further need to resort to fantasy.

The act of painting a girl with a kitten yielded an image far stranger and more unsettling than any amount of bizarre, dream-like concoc-

n the good old days of

widespread scrofula, the

forefathers of our Queen

held the reputation of dis-

pensing miraculous cures.

by Oueen Anne.



Brushwork committed to minuscule exactitude: Lucian Freud's Girl with a White Dog, 1950-1951, now in Liverpool. Courtesy of the trustees of the Tate Gallery.

tions. Her eyes are painted with a scrupulosity so fierce that windows can be seen. reflected in her oddly bulbous

The strands of her dark hair, specified as painstakingly as in the most microscopic Pre-Raphaelite portrait, bristle with the same disquiet that her face discloses. In the hand holding the kitten up in front of her. the fingers close round the animal's throat with mena-

For a while, in the early Fifties, Freud moves away from this mood of frozen expectancy and grows more sensuous. The advent of a freckled, flaxen-haired girl inspires the most tender paintings on view here.

He no longer feels im-pelled, as in an earlier portrait of the dark-haired model, to expose a pale breast and juxtapose it with the dog lying in her lap. The sitter stays clothed, and Freud savours her untroubled features with brushwork less committed

As the Fifties came to a close, painters everywhere responded to the challenge thrown down by the impulsive, muscular and freewheeling strategies of the new American painting. Freud had no intention of following the Abstract Expressionists in their willingness to lettison representational references. But, like his close friend Francis Bacon, he took what he needed from the audacity of the New York avant-garde.

is mark-making becomes looser. emancipated at last from the glassy finish of the previous period. The need for a more convulsive and pugnacious approach culminates in the mighty Sleeping Head of 1962, where the woman's flesh seems to have been pummelled into submission by Freud's belligerent brush. A price, however, had to be paid for this new expansive-

ness. As Freud grew wilder, so he risked losing sight of the tension which gave his finest earlier works their piercing fascination. He looks puzzled in a freely handled self-portrait of 1963, where his head is propped up by a jutting hand and his eyes, for once,

are narrowed and weary. Dissatisfied with the search for a more unbridled anproach, Freud began to develway with paint. The outcome, at first, was timid.

A small 1967 canvas of

fern spreading fuzzily out-wards from a pot is the weakest painting in the show. Freud has always needed an engagement with the human figure to bring out his most potent qualities.

In the same year, he turned his attention to a naked girl asleep on a sheet. Almost filling three sides of the picture, this lightly brushed ground allows her to float on its surface. At the same time. though, Freud treats her body with a far from dreamy

realism. Pubic hair and genitalia are defined with far greater frankness than before, and he shows an uncanny ability to see through the skin and disclose the veins and blood beneath.

The more Freud concentrated on naked figures, the more vulnerable they grew. Offering a corrective to ste-reotyped ideas about the automatic eroticism of the paintings stress isolation and apprehension instead

In one forceful Naked Portrait, the model appears marooned on a mattress. While one leg is hunched up in a foetal position, the other curves round the base of the bed. Freud himself cannot be seen, but she seems acutely aware of his proximity. Indeed, the foreground is dominated by a paint-spattered stool where brushes, paletteknife and mixing bowl all testify to the artist's presiding

By no means all the images now stress loneliness. Two

nudes occupy the bed in Annie and Alice, snuggling together for warmth as one places a consoling hand on the other's pregnant belly.

ut the latter still looks anxious, and Freud is never afraid to reveal sagging flesh, blotches, birth-marks and all the other blemishes which distinguish idealised air-brushed counterparts in pin-up imagery. His women are capable of experiencing pain as well as delight, and sometimes their bodies match the ungainliness of the worn-out, bursting solas where they rest their

formidable bulk. Men are treated with an equal amount of directness. In one arresting canvas, a male nude sprawls on a bed with his hand shielding his eyes. A black sock, trailing from the tip of his foot, echoes the curve of his exposed penis.

In the uncompromising world of Freud's maturity,

 ROTHENSTEIN'S BOX-ES: Best known as a printmaker. Michael Rothenstein has, over the last 30 years. made a long series of boxconstructions often thematically related to his prints. Few have been exhibited, but now comes a retrospective of more than 100. At the same time, there is a show in St James's of his prints from the Seven-

Rothenstein's Boxes. Royal Academy of Arts, Piccadilly, Wl (071-439 7438) Daily 10am-6pm, until March 5. Admission £2, concessions £1. Images and Themes. Peter Nahum, 5 Ryder Street, SW1 (071-930 6059) Mon-\$at 10am-5.30pm, until March

 F.E.McWILLIAM. One of the few still-active survivors from the Slade in the era of Tonks, McWilliam has never entirely shed the Surrealist influence from the Thirties. His new wooden sculptures retain a Surrealist interest in the arbitrary effects of tree shape and grain. Also works by Grace Pailthorpe and Reuben Mednikoff, included in the International Surrealist Exhibition of 1936.

Mayor Gallery, 22a Cork Street, W1 (071-734 3558) Mon-Fri 10am-5.30pm, Sat 10am-1pm, until March 20.

• ROBYN DENNY: Denny was a golden boy of the Sixties, given his own retrospective at the Tate in 1973, when he was only 43. Since then his hard-edged abstractions have fallen out of favour. This new show indicates a gradual softening of edges and flexibility of forms. Bernard Jacobson Gallery.

14a Gifford Street, London W1 (071-495 8575). Mon-Fri, 10am-6pm, Sat, 10am-1 pm. Until February 29. BARCLAYS YOUNG ARTISTS AWARD: In previ-

ous years the show has offered useful pointers to what is going on at art schools. The judges this year were Mel Gooding, John McEwen and Bruce McLean. The nine artists shortlisted seem interested in installations and found objects, rather than traditional painting and sculpture. Andrew Kearney took the award with Untitled 1991, a fortress of concrete and steel.

Serpentine Gallery, Kensington Gardens, London W2 (071-402 6075) Daily.

ALAN DAVIE: Claims that Davie is Scotland's arguable, but this retrospective of more than 100 works from the Thirties right up to date is a timely and desirable exercise. Emphasis is on the variety of Davie's activities and interests and the way they are reflected in the

painted images.

McLellan Galleries, 270

Sauchiehall Streeet, Glasgow (041-331 1854). Mon-Sat. 10am-5pm, Sun, noon-6pm, until March 22.

JOHN RUSSELL TAYLOR

TELEVISION RÉVIEW

Monarch of the lens

Any subject afflicted by these nasty glandular swellings could probably make an apwas to show the monarch at pointment for a royal laying work - perhaps to impress on on of hands, with no quesus the burden of office. Here tions asked. Even the scrofushe was, fulfilling all sorts of official roles: hosting summit parties, doing walkabouts, visiting the United States. lous infant Samuel Johnson, for example, was "touched" presenting colours, making Those days are passed, of course. Yet there were mo-Christmas broadcasts.

But nobody will have ments during last night's highly entertaining Elizabeth watched the film for news of the Queen's constitutional role. No, we watched because R (BBC1) when one hoped the tradition could be revived. it is endlessly fascinating to if only to see the Oueen's reaction. "And you will see on study the Queen's face and the schedule. Ma'am, that body language - much as one studies the face of Buster after you launch the ship and unveil the plaques you will Keaton - for its tiniest variatouch some people with scroftions. Isn't that what we do ula." The Queen, one fancies, when we see her on the news, would do an almost undetectsitting expressionless in foreign parts while natives (in able double-take, then purse her lips, think hard, and say the words of Victoria Wood) waggle their doo-dahs at her? Here is a person who has The idea of Elizabeth R been trained from birth not to

ions. Lech Walesa comes on a state visit to Windsor Castle, and the Queen prepares her family to meet him. "He seems amazed by the size of everything," she reports, quite animatedly. "He only has two English words, and they are, erm, quite interest-ing words." Evidently she doesn't want to tell the world that Lech Walesa says "What a whopper!" all the time.

In his play A Question of Attribution (shown last autumn) Alan Bennett suggested that the Queen lives in a world of facts. "Not chat," insisted Prunella Scales as the Queen; "Give me facts." But the lesson of Elizabeth R was that the Queen would probably enjoy a chat - with her portrait-painter, for example

countably nervous in her company. So it is down to the Queen to think of a polite question, to get the ball rolling. And it seems to be an uphill task. One begins to appreciate, seeing the Queen momentarily stumped, that in the repertoire of possible conversation-starters, the old chestnut "Have you come far?" is something of an all-

The deft good humour of Elizabeth R was its great appeal. It was surprisingly easy to forget the big "issues". such as "How far did the Palace control all this?" and 'How dare they manipulate the populace into liking the Queen?", when confronted with the amazing sight of three Windsor Castle footmen carefully polishing a mahogany table 160 feet

long, one of them actually standing on the brilliantly reflecting surface with dusters tied around his feet.

Conversations and images are what will be remembered from this film: the Oueen posing for her portrait beside Palace: appearing at a diplomatic reception and declaring "Oh look, we're all in blue: something wrong there", and administering the coup de grace to a conversation about diary-keeping. "Do you keep it in your own hand?" she is asked. "I can't

write any other way," she says, baffled by the question. The best moment was when she pocketed her winnings from the Derby sweepstake. She put the sixteen quid into her pocket with the air of someone thinking, "Now I can get that handbag from Dolcis in the morning.

LYNNE TRUSS

• Television listings, page 10

CONCERTO FOR THE VIOLA SECTION

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TOMORROW IN THE WEEKEND TIMES Rising rock star Seal talks to David Sinclair

In the February issue (at major news-agents and bookshops)

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The only compromise we've made

where people are surrounded

by bare floorboards, exposed

plumbing, crudely plastered

walls and a rudimentary sink,

everyone seems conscious of

mortality. His mother, ar-

rayed in white, stretches out

on a black bed-sheet as

though stoically awaiting her

death. But the crisp vigour

with which these figures are

depicted prevents his work

Standing by The Rags is the

title of a magnificent recent canvas, where the female

nude looks weary enough to

fall against the linen scraps

heaped behind her. But

Freud's increasingly encrust-ed pigment, deployed with

magisterial eloquence, en-

sures that she is buoyed up by an innate resilience. The will

to endure remains inextin-

guishable, lending her and

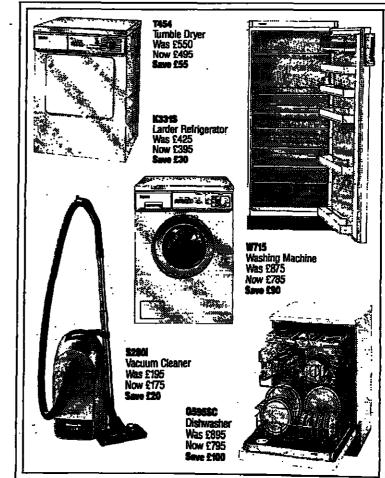
the rest of this exhibition an

obstinate sense of grandeur.

• Lucian Freud at the Tate Gallery, Liverpool (051-709 3223) Wed - Sun 10am-6pm.

Tues I lam-6pm; Closed Mon. Until March 22.

from becoming morbid.



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sharp rap on the door just before 7am on a chilly Monday startles An imperious voice booms: "Good morning," and the bedroom door

is swung open.
I soon get to learn as the week drags to its miserable end that this is not a friendly greeting but a summons which really means: "Get up. We are waiting for our

morning tea."
With some trepidation I get out of bed to start my first day as a housekeeper-cook-carer for an au-tocratic couple living in luxury in an isolated manor house set in its own grounds in rural Leiceste-

When I decided to join the ranks of the poorly paid army of private carers whose efforts and patience enable old people to remain in their own homes, I had no idea what I was in for. Life below stairs in the 1990s is still startlingly anachronistic. I could almost have been playing a bit role in Upstairs, Downstairs and after my first day in service I was tempted to walk

To be fair, it was only this first experience that was unnerving. The elderly couple still lived as though they were nanning a house ful of servants. My week seemed like a month. I was only spoken to when strictly necessary, rarely received a "please" or "thank you" and on one memorable occasion was nearly reduced to tears by the master of the house.

My investigations into the role of private home carers are particularly relevant in the light of the recent death just before Christmas of a 66-year-old wheelchair-bound London woman. The carer who was providing live in help for the victim, through Care Alternatives, a Wimbledon agency, has been charged with murder. Lucianne Sawyer, the director, says that people should not be alarmed. "We cannot totally eliminate risk but, after all, we have looked after 9,000 clients without incident."

She started the agency ten years ago and follows the UK HomeCare Association code of recruiting practice. "Because we have already got a strict recruitment policy, it's very difficult to do a lot more," she says. "We would like to be able to get police checks on our care assistants but at present this is only available for the people employing carers who look after children."

Her business had not been adversely affected. Ms Sawyer says. "Our recruitment policy and procedure is extremely thorough and we have an excellent reput-However, following the incident the agency last week



With due care and attention: Lucianne Sawyer, whose agency provides live in help for the elderly, is introducing more stringent checks on "carers"

decided to instigate two new procedures. Whenever geographically possible it will be visiting care attendants during the first week of live in jobs. (The agency always telephones its live-in care attendants within the first day or two as a matter of course.)

In addition, Ms Sawyer says she will personally undertake spot checks on references of existing care attendants. Care Alternatives, in common

with the other reputable firms among the 400 to 500 private agencies in the country, always asks for two written references - if possible one from an employer and also likes to talk to the referees on the telephone. But some of those attracted to the work do not have former employers. "A lot of our staff come from Australia and New Zealand and we always fax their countries to take up references overseas," Ms Sawyer says. All home care agencies have to

be licensed by the employment department, which Ms Sawyer says does "a certain amount of checking" on premises and how agencies operate. They sometimes. she says, look at references and visit about once a year.

To find out what the job entails, I selected agencies from among the dozens of advertisements in The Lady with attractive names such as Aunt Jessica Care, Help At Hand, Newbury Nannies, Rocking Horse and so on.

I explained in my letter that I had no previous experience of taking care of the elderly, apart Life below stairs in the 1990s is still startlingly anachronistic. I could almost have been in *Upstairs*, Downstairs. After my first day in service I was tempted to walk out

known me a long time. They were

required to write back. I don't

know whether they were tele-

phoned. One agency wanted a

photograph, several specified non-

smokers and drivers were wel-

comed. I chose three agencies and

went along for interviews and was

offered work by two of them. Only

from now and then looking after elderly relatives and neighbours, but that I had brought up my own family. I didn't expect such prompt replies.

One or two telephoned almost immediately. I had to fill in application forms and supply two ences from people who had

one asked me to attend a day

I joined half a dozen other women of varying ages to learn something about coping with the demands of the elderly. One question asked was what we would do if arriving one morning for day duty, having said goodbye to the night staff, we found the elderly client had passed away in bed.

The group looked nervously

around at each other for inspiration. Some said they would telephone the GP, others that they would ring the next of kin. None of us suggested calling the police or dialling 999 for an ambulance. I was surprised that the need for first aid training was not mentioned by our tutor. (The British

insists that its care attendants take their first aid two-day course. Carers have to foot the bill themselves.)

Our tutor warned us not to take our charges out in our own cars for insurance reasons, always to give a receipt if we took money for shopping ("elderly people can get incredibly forgetful and confused over money"). We were advised to take out indemnity insurance in respect of claims for breach of professional duty.

n my first assignment, a "live-in", the duties were hardly arduous (pay E30 a day). I prepared breakfast, lunch and supper and did a little housework. Each week the couple had exactly the same undemanding menu. There was what was described as a "heavy shopping lady", a reference to the provisions she bought, not her size. I was scheduled to do light housework and make the beds". I was not entirely sad. to

Excluding the vast numbers of paid carers employed through local authorities and privately. there are six million people in Britain today looking after a relative at home. By the year 2000 predictions are that there will be more people caring for an elderly

relative than a young child.

Crossroads Care provides temporary care relief for those looking after relatives in their homes. It is the largest agency of its kind. employing 2,000 attendants to help 18,000 families every year. Ian Cross, the director, stresses the importance attached to training and good management.

Not all of my experiences as a paid carer were depressing. A delightful Irish woman in her seventies who was allowed to leave hospital after a fall providing she had 24 hour care, was my first night duty. She wasn't able to go to the bathroom alone and every hour or so I was aroused from a near-comatose state (no sleeping is allowed warned the agency) to help the old lady to the commode. She was sweetness itself, always apologised for disturbing me and we drank cups of tea all night long.

My third role was to provide weekend meals for a frail little old lady living alone in the country. She had suffered a stroke and was wobbly on her legs. She loved gardening and I watered her plants. Again, she was a delight.

totally appreciative. But I must admit that if I don't come across another Zimmer frame, stair lift, commode or deaf aid it will not be much of a

wonder, a city in which it is

Start exploring at the

Rockefeller Center, again

close by our chosen hotels.

Comprising 19 buildings on a 22-acre sight, it is nothing

less than a city in miniature.

with skyscraper offices, res-

taurants, cinemas and shops.

In the middle of it all is an ice-

rink, where in winter New

Yorkers glide and twirt day

and night to the strains of

Sinatra under a huge golden

statue of Prometheus. No-

where perhaps better epito-mises the "work hard, play

hard" ethos that is New York.

Park, New York's green lung, is a must for a Saturday or

Sunday morning, perhaps on

the way to the Metropolitan

Museum of Modern Art, the

largest collection of works of

art and antiquities in the

For a contrast try the Frick

Collection, a short walk down Fifth Avenue. The elegant mansion was lived in until the

1930s and the stunning pic-

tures (Titian, Goya, Velaz-quez) are presented in a setting that retains the inti-

mate feel of a private home.

changing rapidly in the snace

of a few short blocks. Sample

the bohemianism of Green-

wich Village (but do not expect to find the new Bob

Dylan or Joan Baez singing

in the corner coffee shop).

experience the freneticism of

Wall Street and the financial district, browse in the classy

Despite its cosmopolitan nature New York is a collec-tion of villages, its character

western world.

A walk through Central

impossible to get lost.

Squatters should not be turned into criminals, a new group says

ou Crisfield is petite a 25-year-old former squatter and a spokeswoman for Squatters' Action for Secure Homes, a body set up last December, to fight government proposals announced at the end of 1991. which would almost certainly criminalise squatting.

Squash, as it is known, faces the difficult task of promoting squatters' rights amid headlines such as "Filthy squatters smash home to bits" and "The day squatters invaded our home". Squash shares its offices, in north London, with the 14year-old Advisory Service for Squatters. It also liaises with Shelter and New Horizon, the housing pressure groups, and with bodies such as the National Union of Students. Ms Crisfield, a carpenter who works for Squash part-

time, says the group's immediate aim is to reply to the government's consultation paper on changes to the law which would almost certainly make squatting a criminal

Squash's long-term ambi-tion, however, is to change the image of squatters as won't-pay scroungers who prefer to live for nothing than to pay their way. This stereo-type belies the reality of the squatters' plight as homeless people with no choice, Ms Crisfield says.
Lorraine Wood, 22 years old and unemployed, has

been a squatter since she was 18 and left her home in east London because of what she describes as "a difference of opinion" with her family. At the moment, she is squatting in a former old people's home in Islington, north London, with about 20 other people. She has been there for three

"I can't afford the deposit needed up front to rent a home," she says. What money she saves, she is squirtelling away to pay for a course on reaching English as a foreign

language.
The chance of getting a council flat is remote for her as a single young person, who is therefore not classified as a priority category by the council. "To get on a council list, you have to have a permanent address," she says. "My sister, who has a child, and therefore has a better chance than me, has been on the waiting list for four years."

lay my hat



Can't pay, would pay: Lou Crisfield working for squatters.

said that existing legal reme-

dies against squatting were "patently unsatisfactory".

The paper suggests four op-

tions, from maintaining the

status quo to making squat-ting a criminal offence.

of the consultation paper. Mr Baker made clear, is that the

police would have unrestrict-

ed powers to enter residential

or commercial property and

arrest squatters, who would face six months in jail and a

Squash is fighting such changes. We feel the law

deals effectively with squat-ting at the moment." Ms Cristield says.

victims of squatting are largely mythical. Private indi-viduals are not deprived of

Government figures show

that only three people were convicted under section 7 of

the 1977 act in 1988 and

But what of the approxi-

mately 10,000 civil law cases

only one in 1989.

their homes by squatters."

The government's alleged

fine of up to £5,000.

But the most likely outcome

Most of her fellow squatters are single or students, Ms Wood says. But the squat will not survive for much longer. Islington council last week set a court date to reclaim possession of the building. Ms Wood and others like her are waiting for the balliffs when they will leave peacefully, in search of a new squar. Under the Criminal Law

Act 1977, squatting is a criminal offence if it involves violence to gain entry, if a criminal act is committed to gain entry, or while inside; or if there is an act forbidding Ministry of Defence property. Otherwise, squatting is dealt

S quanting in vacant properties is a civil of-tence. Bringing a county court action to evict squatters is often slow and can cost householders up to

Launching his consultation paper last October, Kenneth Baker, the home secretary,

is no for sale, and cases where someone has gone to hospital or who has died who are squatted. At the moment, the owner is put to great expense and time by having to go through these complicated procedures in the courts." ost cases result from the 90 per cent of squatting

which happens in unuse public-sector housing and the 9 per cent of squatting involving commercial property. In these cases, the council, housing association, or commercial owner takes the squatter to court in order to evict them. Make squatting a criminal offence, and you will deny many squatters a chance to make their case to councils to be housed, Squash says. Squarring families are rou-

a year brought against squatters? Such cases hardly eve

involve home-owners, says

Squash. Court lists reveal that

private home owners are very

rarely involved. "It's true that

very rarely are homeowners

squatted," says Mr Geoffrey

Cutting, the chairman of the

Small Landlords Association.

"But there are dozens of cases

of people whose vacant home

tinely told by local authorities that they are "not homeless" and their housing applica-tions are turned down. Every squatter is, in fact,

statutorily homeless under the Housing Act of 1985. According to Squash, about one third of squatters are families with children. They say that a London housing survey in 1986, which showed that cases involving young children were negligible, is out of date. Many squatters have been rehoused by councils after being taken to the civil courts. Cases can be adjourned for squatters to bring proceed-ings against the council for breach of statutory duty.

Few cases go beyond the first stage of judicial review, at which point the council usually assumes its obliga-tions. Whether criminalisation will close off this process to squatters is a disputed point in the longer term, Squash will attempt to promote the message that, as Ms Crisfield says: "For up to 50,000 people, squatting is not a problem; it's the solution, albeit temporary, to point. In the longer term, their homelessness."

RACHEL KELLY

New York, New York

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ONE belongs to New York instantly. One belongs to it as much in five minutes as in five years," wrote Thomas Wolfe. On that reckoning five days - or more if the diary and the budget allow - is ample time to conduct a serious affair with the greatest city in the world.

For New York, of course, read Manhattan. You've seen it in the movies but the first glimpse — preferably from over the river while driving in from JFK airport in one of those ridiculous stretch limos will never cease to astonish. It is not that the lights are brighter or the skyscrapers higher than imagined. The sharp intake of breath is due simply to the sheer vitality, the "animal buoyancy" as Anals Nin called it, which

New York exudes. Begin the first morning like a true tourist at the Empire State building, only a few blocks walk from our two featured hotels. There is a sound reason: the view is like an aerial photograph of the city, offering the perfect way to fix bearings, identify the main points of interest and plot routes between them. On a clear day — and few can resist humming Alan Jay

SATURDAY

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hattan. At 50 cents for the return trip, the latter is the best bargain in the city.

Having acquired a grasp of the geography, explore. The famous yellow cabs are ubiquitous and the subways perfectly safe, at least during the day. But good walking shoes are a far better way to see the sights - and the grid system makes it that metropolitan

Save this token (right) and

collect one more token tomorrow. Token one was

. need six differently

orinted last Saturday. You

holiday for two - with your

antique shops of the upper east side and strut past the neon lights of Broadway. Take in the restaurants, the bars, the shops, all among the best the world can offer. Do not worry if you have never liked the New Yorkers you have met in London. On their own patch they are different again - a people, as Thomas Wolfe suggested, with a sense of their own belonging.

numbered takens to book your companion going free. See full details of terms and

Oars well that ends

well

Are the actors who race an Oxford eight in Alan Ayckbourn's new production any good? The former coach Daniel Topolski and this year's crew give their verdict

The sight was enough to make any self-respecting rowing coach walk out before the interval. Here was a play about a university rowing eight training for their big race - and there was no one in

As a coach of some experience, I confess that I felt a little redundant at the beginning of One Over The Eight, the new Alan Ayckbourn directed play, in which the coach does not appear. At the risk of taking the play too seriously, I had always thought, erroneously it now transpires, that my role had been of some importance. But I needn't have worried. Saskia Wickham's slave-driving cox proved to be more than capable of performing both tasks. Besides, her provincial college crew of novices was so useless that only a saint or a masochist would have taken it on.

To assess Peter Robert Scott's play, now at the Oxford Playhouse, I took along the current Oxford squad, who are training for this year's Boat Race in April, to see what they made of this tale of a college crew preparing to race Oxford. "We'll lose by miles," one of the actors groaned early in the play. "Let's pull out now - with

They'll be well and truly toasted," murmured one of the Oxford pros with evident satisfaction. Sceptical, like the rest of us, about how "theatre" would stage our sport, he had been won over from the opening scene. How could we have doubted Ayckbourn's professionalism? He was, after all, the presiding Cameron Mackintosh professor of contemporary theatre at St Catherine's College, Oxford. So he understood the terrain.

The writer had realistically matched his rag-bag collection against Oxford's third eight. "We'll still lose by miles," wailed the cowardly novice. "A dead octopus has more vigour than you

The technical advice from Mat-thew Mowbray, who is captain of boats at St Catherine's and who attended rehearsals at the Stephen Joseph Theatre in Scarborough, where the play first opened, passed

w York

the accuracy test early on. He had taken the actors out rowing on the river at York after two weeks of dry-land practising, and it was only then that they had realised how hard rowing was. One actor had done a little rowing before, and another, Jonathan Cake, had played rugby for Cambridge against Oxford. "I lost then, and damn it I'm still losing now - on stage, every night," he said.

The actors circuit-trained every day during rehearsals and it shows. "It got so competitive that we even started getting quite tetchy with each other over who sat

where in the boat," Cake said. The verdict from my colleagues was a thumbs up for the authentic acting, inter-squad dialogue and stage presentation of a sport that takes up over five hours of their lives each day.

We were all astonished to learn

that the writer had never pulled an oar in anger, nor, indeed, had he ever been sporty enough to make him privy to the locker room banter which he records with such realism. These exchanges were the crowning glory of a play which had the Oxford men convulsed as they recognised many of their own crewmates in the characters. "They got all that in-boat rivalry

just right," said freshman Ed Hatton, an Old Etonian. "It's so true, especially when you get moved back up the boat and someone else moves down into your place. You see it as demotion.

I remember how we used to call it "bow and out" in my day. "Well, now it's the number three seat and we call it the ejector seat blues," said Boris Mavra, a Yugoslavian, morosely, as Jonathan Cake was moved back a seat. "And I'm rowing at three at the moment."

For 18-year-old Hatton there was a ring of truth when the cox told her crew: "They may be better than you, more skilful than you, than you, but you're more bloody minded than they are." "And that stroppy Canadian stroke was our American president to a T,"

Ayckbourn's rowers were perfect



Winning by a length: members of this year's Oxford squad (in blazers) say they recognised many crewmates in the characters played by the Playhouse rowers (wearing singlets)

college part-timers and marvellously convincing students. part-timers and Even when the Oxford rowers met them after the show it was hard not to see them as hopelessly inadequate college rowers. I particularly enjoyed the cox saying to the weedy character Tim: We've got to build up your strength, Tim. You know that a crew is only as good as its weakest

link? Well, Tim, you're that link." The characters in the play were so like some of the guys in our squad," said Kingsley Poole, in his third year at Oxford. "But I thought some of the egos were a little too exaggerated." "No way." countered Kris Kobach, an Ameri-

can, and began listing the biggest egos in the squad. His crewmates nodded in agreement. I. too, recognised some lovely characterisations of rowers from the various crews I have coached over the years. Actor Richard Long

was ordered to stop eating. At 14st

("well, actually just over 14st 14lb") he was too fat. Oxford's 1986 president had similar troubles. And Matt Wood, in the current Oxford squad, sheepishly admitted: "Our coach wouldn't put me into a crew until I lost some

weight."
The 40-a-day smoking habit of the character called Oliver reminded me of one dippy cox from a well-known public school who couldn't face the freezing hours on the river without his morning fag. And there were always the occasional heavy drinkers.

ut the waiter at the resthe show was impressed self discipline of the Oxford squad boys as they stuck diligently to orange juice and Diet Cokes and slipped off to their beds well before midnight. "We're in the gym at seven tomorrow," they muttered. One forgets the sacrifice needed to be a top-class athlete. One Over The Eight faltered. though, when the unrelenting battering ram lectures of Wickham's Sgt Major cox, often laced with cliched messages about

the dignity of suffering, wore her crews down to dumb obedience. The audience, too, began to wilt under the onslaught. Unfortunately she was also at times half turned away towards her crew, rowing in their shell mounted on the stage, and we missed a lot of what she said - a result of transferring the play from the round in Scarborough to an art stage.

We would never have taken all that from a cox," Kobach said.
"They were much too nice to her. They just accepted it like sheep. "Yes, but don't forget she had more rowing experience than they did," Mavra said. "She'd coxed some top class

FANTASY OF REAL EOVE?

"Well, if a cox tried to talk to me

"You walk a thin line as a female cox." said Oxford's new American cox, Kirsty Downing, with feeling. But they all felt their pulses quicken when Wickham launched into her final pre-race pep talk.
"That really got to me." Mavra said. "The way they did the team spirit and the passion worked very

"We were very nervous tonight. knowing the crew were coming." Wickham said. "We've really enjoyed doing these parts but we were worried they wouldn't find us convincing." They also expected their crew-rousing chant. "Oxford, Oxford, nuts to you, bollocks to you", to cause trouble in the city of dreaming spires.

Ayckbourn was delighted with the Oxford squad's reaction. His biggest headache was getting the boat on stage. "No one realised the length of a rowing eight," he said.

"We planned for a 30ft boat, only to find they are twice that length. "It was very realistic, the way the boat was set up on stage," said Kobach. "I can't think of a better way to represent rowing in the theatre. And I think it would have spoilt it if they had won. But I

didn't quite understand why the

cox cried after the race." A few years ago, Nick Kent, a former director of the Oxford Playhouse, asked me to collaborate with the writer Doug Lucie on a script about the tensions and pressures facing a varsity crew. It seems that Alan Ayckbourn and Peter Robert Scott have got there before us. I had thought that rowing was an impossible dramatic subject. But maybe One Over The Eight will spark off a craze for rowing themes. Perhaps our time

• Daniel Topolski coached the Oxford crew from 1972 to 1987

How to ring changes in your love life

Phone-dating is the latest way for Americans to find a new relationship. William Cash tries it out for himself

os Angeles's trendy Golden Monkey Café was unusually packed recently - a sweaty throng of well-groomed young people sipping Californian chardonnay as they listened attentively to a speech. A birthday narty? An office leaving party? A fashion show?

No. The 120 or so professionals were attending a 'get-ready-for-romance" singles dating seminar entitled: "Everything You Always Wanted To Know About Writing A Phone-Dating Ad. But Were Afraid To Ask."

Phone-dating has become one of the most popular and successful ways for Americans to start new relationships. The classified pages of American newspapers and glossy magazines are full of advertisements for the phonedating services that are starting to replace singles bars, health clubs and introduction agencies as a way of meeting the opposite sex.

not be confused with phonesex: neither should it be associated with the \$3-aminute adult party lines that the US Supreme Court has recently ruled can only be made available to customers who specifically request their phone companies in writing. This, after thousands of under-age callers become ad-

dicted to the dial-a-porn lines. In Nicholson Baker's new novel. Vax. two strangers who call an adult party line are so enticed by each other's voices that they start up an erotic conversation that lasts for 165 pages — and run up a bill of about \$5,000 (£2,700).

Phone-dating works like this. You browse through the 50-word personal ads buried at the back of a weekly newspaper such as LA Weekly, a variation on Time Out. To ensure that you don't make any mistakes, the ads are split up into various categories: "Women Seeking

Women": "Women Seeking Women": "Men Seeking Men"; and "She-Male". Each has a telephone box number to call if you are

With phone-dating there are no embarrassing interviews, no match-making video sessions and no long application forms to fill in. The customer rings the telephone number quoted in the advertisement, listens to the personal details recorded on an answerphone and, if he or she likes the sound of the person on the message, leaves their own message and telephone number. The cost? About \$1.50 (83p) a minute.

his contrasts sharply with the rigmarole involved in getting on the books of, say, the Helena International VIP Club of Beverly Hills. In the interests of security, the agency uses private detectives, psychoanalysis and handwriting expents and probes into your financial and medical history, all of which could end up costing \$20,000. While a date with Helena takes six weeks to set up, a phone-date can be fixed in half an hour.

While insisting that Helena caters for a very different clientele, president Joseph Lasman admits that phonedating has some natural advantages. "No one likes to get rejected, and a rejection on the phone doesn't seem to count so much - you can laugh it off as a joke."

I left a message for a woman with a New York accent who described herself in LA Weekly as "Adventurous, Attractive, Amusing SF". seeking an "accomplice to explore the rest of the alphabet". She called me back within an hour. I suggested a drink later that night at the Beverly Hills Hotel. She readily agreed.

Her name was Linda. She

was 35, divorced, about 5ft

tall, and worked as an assis-

tant librarian at UCLA. Her

different strategy. Instead of trawling through the columns of personal ads. you can dial another number that puts you straight through to the pre-recorded messages. If someone sounds boring ("Hi, my name is Carol. I am five foot five with dark hair and am looking for a single white man aged 35-45 who is educated, fun-loving and outgoing. . ."), you simply go on

each — and nothing else.

The next day I tried a

I left a few messages. About an hour later. I got a call from another New Yorker. She suggested we meet after work at a Mexican cocktail-bar in Century City. Again, disappointment fol-

lowed. She was called Kay.

wore heavy make-up and

worked in international film

distribution. She was in her

'Her name was Linda. She worked as a librarian at UCLA and her idea of adventure was sitting at home reading Pinter'

thirties, divorced and clearly lonely. At about 10pm, she invited me back to her flat for a late supper. We sat in a bare kitchen

eating spaghetti and drinking a day-old bottle of Beaujolais. It was hardly the most romantic evening I had ever experienced. For a start (and I don't blame her), she insisted on keeping the front door of her apartment open, "for security reasons". After supper, she closed the door, but on a Bette Midler tape, and sat down next to me on the "love-seat", as two-seat sofas are called in America. I made

my excuses and left. "A good pre-recorded message is the key to successphone-dating,"

Nereda Gibbs, the president of Matchline, the leading phone-matchmaker service in

phone clients, who each pay \$75 a month for the service. "They are mainly doctors, Hollywood producers, lawyers and even judges who simply haven't the time to spend daring dozens of different people each week. Phonedating is no longer taboo people have so little adventure in their lives these days, they meet so few new people - our, service fills this gap," Ms

Gibbs claims.

Each client must have a university degree, and is vet-ted financially before being given an identity number.

They are also given tips on how to "sound your best" on the recorded message. Men are advised to give out as much information as possible.

and sound a little mysterious. 'Women usually like to have a reason before calling a man, while men like to let their imaginations run wild,"

For the ultimate in exclu-

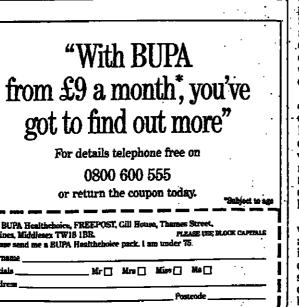
The range of numbers is now kaleidoscopic. Dial 976-Surf to find out beach conditions along 485 miles of the Californian coast, or call the Pope on 1-900-740-Pope and contribute to the world's first electronic collection plate by listening to a daily message from the Vatican at \$1.95 a

Phone-dating services are

now estimated to comprise 30

per cent of the dial-data industry. The new federal legislation requiring written permission for sexually explicit services is not expected to apply to phone-dating numbers. The Supreme Court ruling is being seen as the end of the line for the diala-porn industry. "As a practi-cal matter, the industry is history," says Nick Selby, a lawyer in Palo Alto, California, who represents the information-providers' coalition, which operates such services. But phone-dating could it self enter a new x-rated era in May, when the first fullcolour video-telephone that can be plugged into a standard socket goes on sale for \$1,495. The only snag is that the camera displays images at a third of the speed of a standard television, making it look like a 1930s King Kong movie. Mr Selby says that phone-sex enthusiasts are unlikely to enjoy the experience. "At ten frames a second, it's gonna look pretty weird."

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VOTED THE BEST NEW CONCEPT IN ADULT PAIN 1-900-844-56896--LADIES TRIAL OFFER FREE (213) 626-8447 PARTY SERVICE Get ready for romance: phone-dating has replaced singles bars and health clubs as a way to meet the opposite sex idea of adventure was sitting at home reading Pinter or William S. Burroughs. She wore a tight-fitting black leather jacket and pixie boots. and had dark, greasy hair cut about themselves, while women are told to keep per-Cher-style. We had a spritzer sonal details to the minimum,

Ms Gibbs says. southern California, which sive dating, however, lonely has more than 3,500 telehearts can call the Animal Lovers Connection, a phonedating service for those with a particular affection for dogs

and cats. Those who do not have any luck with their message can listen to a selection of "pet-stories".

Phone dating is just one area of the highly lucrative, if quirky, dial-information industry, worth an estimated \$1.2 billion a year. The service was first used in 1980 when NBC asked viewers to call up with their preference after the Reagan v Carter



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Blood, toil, tears and Scotch

Matthew d'Ancona reports on a riddle wrapped in a medical mystery - how did Winston Churchill manage to save the world while drinking like a fish?

out of alcohol

than alcohol

has taken

out of me'

ords are lordliest in their wine, according to Milton, but are statesmen more statesmanlike when they've sunk a few? Viewers of the BBC's television biography of Sir Winston Churchill may well have pondered this question last week, as they learnt that the man who won a war and made the cigar a totem of power was also a serious drinker, capable of downing quantities of alcohol that would incapacitate some people.

Never averse to a glass of hock over breakfast, in his late sixties the prime minister would drink a bortle of champagne at lunch, followed by a few brandies. After

his rest, he would move on to Scotch and soda, and consume yet more champagne and cognac at dinner. returning to a steady drip of diluted whisky as he worked into the small hours. But rarely saw him the worse for wear.

The roll-call of politicians with a taste for the hard stuff is long and glittering. Pitt the Younger, for exam-

ple, was a fierce and often goutridden drinker, of whom one observer said that he "liked a glass of wine very well, and a bottle still better". Lord Asquith's love of brandy was such that he occasionally appeared unsteady in the Commons, while Ernest Bevin's secretaries complained that he used alcohol like a car uses petrol.

Among today's leaders, Boris Yeltsin is reputedly the most bibulous, often criticised for the Falstaffian lifestyle which distinguishes him so markedly from the abstemious Mikhail Gorbachev.

But Churchill's sheer stature makes his drinking history more compelling and — for those campaigning to strip alcohol of its glamour — unsettling. Over the past decade, the Royal Colleges have recommended a safe weekly intake for men of no more than 21 units of alcohol, a total which Churchill must have exceeded every day. Assuming that Chur-chill drank two bottles of champagne and about ten shots of spirits a day his daily intake would have been 22 units.

"I'm astonished he could get away with it," says John Rae, the director of the Portman Group. which combats alcohol misuse. "He was brought up at a time when people drank a lot more than nowadays. I would worry if people took this to mean that you can drink a great deal and operate at work. They should in no circumstances treat him as a role model."

The image of the lion-hearted national hero as a seasoned toper certainly upsets current orthodoxies on the destructive impact of alcohol in the workplace. A survey conducted last year by the charity Alcohol Concern showed that drinkers take four times as many

days off work as non-drinkers and that three-quarters 'All I will say lieve that alcohol is that I have misuse is a problem in their organtaken more

Booze is hostile to honest graft. Yet Churchill's close acquaintance with the bottle does not appear to have impaired his judgment, his energies as a leader or his output as a historian. He lived to the age of 90, before succumbing to a stroke in

January 1965. How did he manage it? Expens on alcohol and its use say that tolerance can be nurtured in many different ways, depending on the drinker and his or her physical idiosyncrasies. The ratio of fluid to solid in an individual's body, for example, naturally affects the concentration of alcohol in the bloodstream and, therefore, susceptibility to drunkenness.

A stable routine can also play its part: the housewife knocking back the Tio Pepe at home every evening is arguably better placed to hold her drink than the travelling salesman drinking in different places and circumstances

But the much-travelled Churchill never enjoyed a routine lifestyle, so it is unlikely that this was an important factor for him.

The drinker's choice of poison is important too, as certain drinks are better resisted by the body than others. The stomach treats alcohol as an irritant and produces mucus in response, slowing the process of



Still working at full capacity at the age of 89: Sir Winston Churchill in 1963, during a well-watered luncheon meeting with Paul Vardinoyannis, the Greek politician

absorption: sherry makes people get drunk more quickly than whisky, because it generates less protective mucus.

As it happens, Churchill's favourite tipples — Scotch and soda and champagne — were fizzy. and therefore absorbed quickly into the bloodstream. But he doubtless compensated for this by pacing himself. Sir David Hunt, one of his private secretaries. recalled that the prime minister "drank the weakest whisky-andsodas I have ever known". Another, Sir John Colville, observed that "Winston's whisky was very much a whisky and soda. It

was really a mouthwash." Another important variable is the rate at which the body metabolises alcohol, turning it into carbon dioxide and water. On average, a unit of alcohol an hour is processed but, according to Adrian Carr of the Alcohol Studies Centre, Paisley College, this figure can vary dramatically. "Most of the material is based on an average person who is 5ft 10in, 11 stone and perfectly proportioned. They don't talk about the fat slobs and the skinny people."

ong years of drinking experience, he says, usually lurk behind an apparently heroic tolerance. "The main reason why Churchill wasn't rolling out to meet generals was probably long-term consumption. There's evidence to suggest that if you drink a lot for a long time it takes more to get you

drunk. Keeping yourself topped up means that the effect may be negligible."

Why men like Churchill take to

drink is perhaps more puzzling a question than how they learn to take a skinful. If the apparently bullish prime minister ap-proached alcohol as a means of warding off the "black dog" of depression which hounded him all his life, he did so in error. In spite of its ability to uplift in the short term, alcohol compounds emotional difficulties: studies show that in any population of problem drinkers there is likely to be a significant level of clinical depression, which often recedes when a subject goes on the wagon. More probable is that Chur-

chill's extraordinary intake of al-

cohol reflected his taste for excess. a tendency which the psychiatrist Anthony Storr characterises as his "need for the manic realm". According to legend, the great have great appetites and a tendency to addiction.

Churchill loved food, drink and fine cigars. The young Winston was beaten for stealing sugar, and an early school report described him as "greedy". Later in life, he fell prey to the pleasures of the wine cellar, his gargantuan ap-petites matched his gargantuan

Drink is also supposed to inspire man as it destroys him, providing what Dr Johnson called a "picklock" to the deepest recesses of the imagination. Perhaps, like writers from Horace to Fitzgerald, Churchill saw in the dark glass of the bottle the muse which would keep his creative instincts affoat.

"There's probably a correlation between excellence and drinking." says Simon Rae, the editor of the Faber Book of Drink and Drinking. "Drink can be the corset of a very fragile personality. But some people drink and some don't." Hitler, he says, was a tectotaller. while Alexander the Great was a

But medicine and psychiatry cannot hope to plumb the depths of Churchill's relationship with drink, a relationship in which he always claimed to exercise the upper hand. "All I will say is that I have taken more out of alcohol than alcohol has taken out of me." he once claimed.

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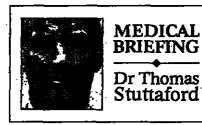
Happily hooked on HRT

"IF MOST of the drugs issued by psychiatrists for the treatment of depres-sion in women were dropped into the ocean, women would be healthier, and fish sicker," writes Mr John Studd, an expert on hormone replacement therapy (HRT), in General Practitioner magazine. But, in The Lancet, psychiatrists claim that HRT can become addictive and suggest that some patients come back to doctors more frequently for larger and larger doses.

The public, which has to take the treatment, is confused by the argument.

but, as in most savage disagreements, both sides are right.

Any doctor treating a depressed middle-aged woman would be unwise not to consider that hormonal changes might be responsible, and if other signs, symptoms and blood tests confirm an approaching menopause, would be foolish not to try HRT. It would also be



absurdly optimistic not to appreciate that women, like men, suffer from endogenous depressions and that the biochemical upset could be as easily related to the brain as to the ovaries.

Many women will recover their old mood with nothing other than hormone replacement, and with it their sense of well-being. Recent research in Copenhagen has shown that middle-aged spread may regress (albeit so minimally that

HRT could never double as a slimming pill) they will look younger, their bones will be stronger and their sex life rejuvenated. It is hardly surprising that women are reluctant to return to the depressed state which prevailed before they took the hormones. Other women whose depression is not

hormone-linked will need to take the very antidepressant which Mr Studd would consign to the deep. A report in the Journal of Psychiatry by Dr Stewart Montgomery of St Mary's Hospital. London, stresses the need for antidepressant treatment of this sort to be continued for at least six months as, if treatment is stopped too soon, there is a 50 per cent chance of relapse or recurrence. The advent of the newer and safer antidepressants of the 5HT re-uptake inhibitors group has made this a less daunting task for the patient, and a less worrying one for the doctor.

peanuts

PEOPLE have heard of aflatoxin poisoning from mouldy peanuts which is a problem in the third world. They may even be aware that Cerumol, the drops used to loosen earwax before syring-ing, is made of peanut oil and should not be used if the ear is at all eczematous. But the most devastating effect of peanuts, their ability to cause catastrophic anaphylaxis, collapse from an acute allergic reaction in a previously sensitised patient, is little

The danger of peanuts can be quite as severe as that found in those who suffer from allergy to pencillin, bee-stings, shellfish, foreign pro-tein found in some injections, and some other drugs - such as iron injections, anti-inflammatory agents (including aspirin, in one recent case the patient had taken a combination of aspirin and peanuts), heparin (an anticoagulant) and neuromuseular blocking agents (used to achieve relaxation in anaesthesia). This was tragically illustrated by the death of the Marlborough girl 30 minutes after she had eaten a pastry containing traces of peanurs.

Anaphylaxic collapse is caused by a combination of swelling of the tissues around the throat, so that the airways are obstructed, by broncho spasm — the acute wheeze as the bronchial tubes go into

Death from spasm — and by a catastrophic fall in blood pressure resulting from dilation of the main

blood vessels. The patient's symptoms come on suddenly, usually within 15 minutes of exposure to the allergen. Usually the patient will be aware of their sensitivity to the substance, but will not understand how dramatic the reaction can be. They become restless, flushed, the heart races, they feel faint, find difficulty in breathing and wheeze, sneeze and cough. They may vomit. The face swells, often accompanied by an urticarial rash (like nettle rash). If the circulation fails, death results from heart

cularly at once, is the only reliable treatment. The patient must be laid flat, with the feet raised, and immediztely given an injection of between 0.5ml and 1ml of adrenalin at a strength of one in a thousand. The dose is repeated at ten-minute intervals until the patient recovers. Thereafter, intravenous antihistamines or steroids can be useful, but their action is far too slow - measured in hours rather than minutes - to

treat acute collapse. Patients who have previously had a severe reaction to any allergen can, like President Bush, who is sensitive to bee stings, always carry an injection of adrenalin already

| failure. Adrenalin, given intramus- | prepared and drawn up in a syringe. |
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tood



MOTHERS who are unable to breastfeed their babies have been worried by the report in The Lancet which showed that very premature babies who were fed on mother's milk tended to do slightly better academically in childhood than those who had had

to rely on cow's milk. Some of the deficiency in cow's milk may be explained by an absence of complex fats including docosahexanoic acid and arachidonic acid which are necessary for the development of brain cells. It seems that manufacturers may soon be adding these lats

to baby milks. Mothers should remember that the survey involved tiny premature infants, rather than those born as they usually are, healthy at fullterm. Women who have relied upon the bottle to feed their children should not think that they have condemned them to wear a dunce's cap forever.

ROADWISE "

Shoulder

to rely on Police forces have helped

to devise a code of practice, which starts next month, to try to prevent the 113 deaths and 3,300 injuries because of crashes on motorway hard shoul-

ders. The AA, National Breakdown and other organisations will will ask patrol staff to be extra

Affordable?

Ford has cut the price of

its top quality model, the Sierra Cosworth, by more

than £6,000 to try to

stimulate sales. The new retail price is £21,380.

Vauxhall is raising prices

by an average 2.3 per cent and adding £10 to the

£350 delivery charge.

Prices start with the Nova

range at £5,599, while the Senator range starts at £21,555.

Volkswagen is pitching prices for its new Golf

range, on sale in Britain

by March, 3 per cent higher than the old line-

up. The Golf will start at

under £9,400, 1.4-litre CL

Price rise

vigilant.

Hugh Wainwright liked his Jensen so much he bought the company. Kevin Eason assesses the new-look supercar

Rebirth of a British champion

ric Ward is one of the last craftsmen to work in the motor industry's best times, when a British badge signified the highest quality in car engineering. For 36 years Mr Ward has trimmed and fitted the sumptuous leather that envel-

ops drivers who buy a Jensen. When he started in 1955, Jensen Motors, employing about 3,000 people on a six-acre site at West Bromwich, near Birmingham, was one of the most famous names in British industry. Eleven years later, Jensen crashed, a victim of the great shakeout of the 1970s.

Mr Ward, now aged 62, is one of a dozen-strong team of skilled men who hope to revive Jensen as a

competitor for some of the world's finest motoring marques.

The company has a new and enthusiastic owner, Hugh Wainwright, the chairman of Unicon Holdings, a property-to-engineering business based at Stockport in

Like Victor Kiam, who bought the Remington company because he liked the razor, Mr Wainwright was converted to the cause of Jensen after he bought one of the cars. At that time, Jensen was

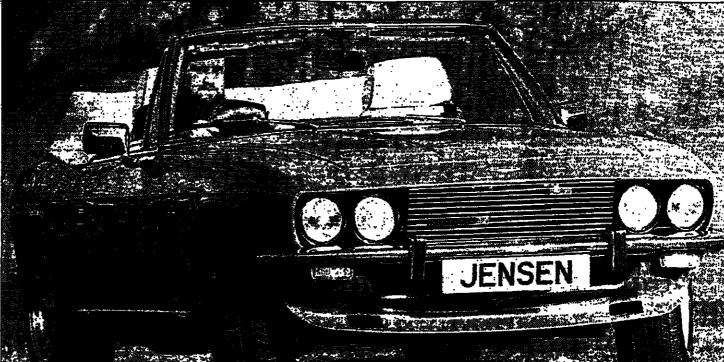
mainly a spares and restoration business. Mr Wainwright's ambition was to start a new generation of supercars. In December 1989, he bought the business and started to lay the foundations for full production.

The company also has a new showroom, its first in 20 years, at West One Carriage, George Street, in London's West End. Its shopwindow product is the new Interceptor S4 EFI, a Jensen with a long heritage and the car thatgives the company hope that it will be an important "niche" manufac-turer of the 1990s.

David Heseltine, the general manager given the job of guiding Jensen back to prominence, says that changes, while subtle, are taking the Interceptor from a car of

the Sixties to a car for today.

The Interceptor's muscular features have changed little since the series started 25 years ago. The most substantial development is the Chrysler-supplied 5.9-litre, fuel-injected engine, down from the traditional 6-litre-plus used in previous cars. The advantages are lighter weight, better power control and improved emissions to meet . the latest European legislation,



David Heseltine, Jensen's general manager, in the £117,000 Interceptor S4 EFI. The saloon version costs £102,000, which can vary, depending on specification. The 5.9-litre Chrysler V8

Mr Heseltine's team has also Chrysler V8 roars into life, with added a new three-speed automatic gearbox, bigger brakes, 16in alloy wheels and a deeper front spoiler. The improvements, Mr Hes-eltine says, are designed to make the car one that owners will want to

drive as a long-range tourer. The interior certainly cossets: the Connolly leather immediately offers an ambience of luxury. Dashboard dials and switches look chunky and outdated but somehow

appropriate in a car of this Turn the ignition key and the engine develops 244bhp at 4,200rpm through a three-speed automatic shift. A gearbox with overdrive is available on request. Top speed is 140mph and fuel consumption is about 16mpg.

Bentley?
The head says no, but the heart warms to a car of this venerable design and type with the quirks that might addle the brain of the average Sierra driver but which the supercar owner will virtually demand.

noisy enough to alter my piping Learning to live with the car, listening to the V8 burble along country lanes and being hugged by Eric Ward's sumptuous seats are pleasures beyond the boundaries of

ordinary motoring.

Mr Hesletine is confident. He

favourites, such as Aston Martin or says: "I think we can get to our target of 12 cars a year, then start thinking about moving up to a

waiting list of 12 cars and, later,

making 24 cars a year with the

buffer of a waiting list.
"At that level, this company can start looking forward to a good

Although near retirement, that is good news for Mr Ward and his colleagues, who have suffered the worst of the bad times, but who can, at least, see the rebuilding of a business they have lived with most

of their working lives.

versions will cost less than £10,000, and the Golf Unwelt turbo-diesel will sell at £11,999. The 2.8litre VR6 will cost £19,199.

Punchy



Car thieves beware: many victims are so infuriated by motor crime that they would love to punch the culprits. A General Acci-dent survey found that 23 per cent of victims readily admit they would like to commit physical violence on the thieves, despite

No competition: the £72,000 Mercedes that the Princess of Wales will drive, despite the royal tradition of buying British

Why the princess had to go German

THE men at Mercedes-Benz were struggling to keep their biggest secret for weeks. Where the British car industry had failed, they had pulled off their biggest coup-leasing a car to the Princess of Wales. While millions of motorists defected to Japanese, German and French makes, the royal family was always ready to buy British, writes Kevin Eason.

Rolls-Royces are a feature of state occasions and Jaguars and Range Rovers are almost regulation motorway transport while an opentop Aston Martin sports saloon can cut a dash at the polo grounds. Now the electronically controlled

VOLKSWAGEN

What may appear unpatriotic is really a practical decision for a female car buyer

top will be taken off the princess's new Mercedes SL sports.

enough power to propel the car

quite lazily at the legal motorway

limit. The automatic gearshift felt

stiff and although the car has more

than 200bhp, it still lumbers along

hardly surprising because it weighs almost two tonnes.

tenor to a husky Marlene Dietrich-

style growl after a couple of hours of

motorway conversation.
So is the £100,000 Interceptor

good enough to drag potential owners away from traditional

The convertible I tested was

Is that a slight to the home motor industry? Of course it is, in the sense that the royal family is Britain's representative abroad. Photographs of what the royals drive are sent around the world.

But who can blame the princess for wanting to ditch the huge heman cars that have been the sporting favourites of the past? Her old XJS is from a design more than two decades old with a 5.3-litre

engine and a long bonnet. The Aston Martin DB series, her husband's personal favourite cars, are big, noisy and need a fair amount of muscle to drive. The SL. by contrast, is a superb lightweight two-seater, which is easy to handle and and has sleek styling. It is a 150mph sports car docile enough to be driven by the most inexperienced driver. The car also has the latest safety features.

PORSCHE

No wonder then that almost alone among British car sales slumping by a fifth, sales of the SL series rose last year to 1,350 from about 1,100 in 1990.

Critics have been upbraid the princess, but they should ask the question that lies behind her decision: where are the SL's British competitors?

If Jaguar had made its planned F-Type successor to the old E-Type. perhaps she could have chosen Jaguar. Rover is not making a sports car at present, leaving only the "muscle" cars as possible options in the £72,000 price bracket occupied by the SL

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Law Report February 7 1992 Court of Appeal

Errors in ITC paper insufficient to justify quashing decision

Regina v Independent Television Commission, Ex parte Television South West Before Lord Donaldson Lymington, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Nolan and Lord

Justice Steyn [Judgment February 5] Television South West were not justified in their complaint that the Independent Television Commission had acted unfairly in breach of a legitimate expectation that it would not apply more stringent criteria to their key revenue assumptions than those mentioned in its invitation to apply for regional Channel 3

Errors in a staff assessment paper considered by members of ITC in deciding to reject TSW's application did not critically af-fect them so as to require the court to set aside its decision on the ground of misdirection.

The Court of Appeal so stated, the Master of the Rolls dissenting, in dismissing TSW's application for judicial review of ITC's decision to reject their bid on the ground that it was not satisfied that TSW could maintain the proposed service throughout the

licence period.

Mr Gordon Pollock, QC and Mr Geoffrey Vos for TSW; Mr Patrick Elias, QC and Mr David Pannick for ITC; Mr Thomas Morison, QC and Mr William J. Wood for West Country.

THE MASTER OF THE ROLLS, dissenting, said that under the Broadcasting Act 1990 one of the duties of the ITC was that of securing the provision of a nationwide system of television broadcasting services (Channel 3) to be structured on a regional

Under the licensing procedure each licence was for a 10-year period and applicants for licences were to make sealed bids of an index-linked annual sum payable to ITC on behalf of the public.

Before a licence might be awarded, the ITC had to be satisfied that the conditions of section 16 were met as to quality of service and, by section 16(1)(b), that the applicant would be able to maintain that service throughout the period of the licence. By section 17 the licence for any

particular region was to be awarded to the applicant who, having passsed the section 16 tests, submitted the highest bid.
TSW failed the sustainability condition, so that although the

highest bidder, the lience was not awarded to them but to West Country which succeeded on both quality and sustainability

Licensing procedure In November 1990 a consultative draft of an invitation to apply for licences was published. No announcement was made as to ITC's estimate of the growth revenue (NAR) over the licence period 1993-2002. The only

information available was an article in ITC's journal Airwayes in which the personal conclusion of the writers was that an average figure of 4 per cent would be appropriate and consistent with the view of other forecasters, in particular with that of the Nat-ional Economic Research Asso-

ciates (NERA) at 4.6 per cent.
ITC adopted a 4 per cent figure
although recognising that it was
on the low side. That was not

known to the applicants.

In February 1991 ITC published the invitation to apply for licences. By the closing date of May 15, 40 applications had been received, which was an important and significant figure since the ITC intended to announce the allocation of licences in October and the process of detailed evaluation of so many applications within so short a time created obvious problems. Their methodology had not been

It seemed that an ITC staff team of two, allocated to consider the relevant regional applications, prepared a paper which was discussed first with a senior economist on the staff and later with the member allocated to take a special interest in the region. The paper underwent amer

ment in the course of those discussions but eventually emerged as paper No 179(91) which was undoubtedly considered at the meetings on October 10 and 11 when the allocation isions were taken.

TSW's primary compliant was of unfairness: that the terms of the ITC's invitation led it to believe that (a) if the assumptions under lying its forecasts had been thoroughly considered, were consistent and credible, (b) the projections including the sensitivtests put forward by it in response to the specific require-ments of the invitation were properly prepared on the basis of the assumptions stated and (c) the accounting policies had been properly and consistently applied

throughout the period, the busi-ness plan would be held to meet the sustainability requirement imposed by section 16(1)(b) of the Act and that no other more stringent or unannounced criteria would be applied by ITC.

In reliance on that belief, TSW had prepared their business plan which met the criteria in full and calculated the amount of the bid at a figure which would render the licence profitable; had they known or suspected that other more stringent criteria would be applied, the bid would have been

TSW's secondary complaint was that paper No 179(91) was flawed on account of its failure to assess TSW's bid fairly or

accurately. In the course of his reply, Mr Pollock, while not formally abandoning that complaint which had been exhaustively examined dur-ing the argument. seemed no longer to attach importance to it.

That raised the issue whether judicial review proceedings were to be regarded as purely adversarials should the court disregard an aspect of a complainant's case to which he no

longer attached importance?

If only the applicant and the respondent had any interest in the matter and the decision was of no consequence in terms of how the authority or other authorities should act in other similar cases, that would probably be the proper conclusion. But not here.

Judicial review was a super-visory jurisdiction exercised in the field of public law in the public interest. There was a public interest in ensuring that the prescribed method of allocating criticisms might be made of that

Invitation to apply
Certain paragraphs of the invitation to apply dealt with the need for the regional Channel 3 licences to conclude an arrangement on sharing the costs of network programmes in accordance with section 39 of the Act and extend that the contribu-Act and stated that the contributions would need to reflect the their different earning power in the sense of profit potent

It suggested on an indicative basis a complex formula which would result in costs being shared on the basis largely of "qualifying revenue share".

The paragraphs relating to maintaining the services stated that the key questions concerned the financial resources of the applicant, the following financial information being sought for the full term of the licence: namely. profit and loss projections, cash flow projections and projected balance sheets.

It further stated: "The ap-plicant is asked to declare and to justify certain key assumptions he has made in formulating his business plan. The ITC will, inter alia, seek to satisfy itself that the assumptions underlying the applicant's forecasts have been thoroughly considered, are consistent and are credible."

The invitation then set out five specific sensitivy tests to which the applicants' attention was

The draft invitation had drawn significant comment from TSW. His Lordship referred to a letter put by them to ITC pointing out that the critical question of what evaluation criteria would be applied by ITC remained unan-swered and asking how would ITC decide whether revenue or cost projections were realistic, and whether the applicant's assump-tions were credible. Answer had

NERA had also written to ITC that in its view ITC could have assisted applicants by explaining in more detail how it intended to evaluate the financial proposals presented. NERA recommended that the evaluation should con-

not be given,

centrate on the methodology used as well as on the forecasts. TSW's application for a licence was based on their own experience as the incumbent licensee for the region and on the use of the econometric model produced by NERA and advice from the equally respectable Henley Centre for Forecasting.

PULHAM SW6. Lovely, quiet 1 bedroom flat to let. £130pw, Tal: 071:731 5216.

Its features were (a) their forecast of an average of 5.3 per cent (NAR) over the licence period, (b) a substantial reduction in costs as compared with TSW's costs in the years before the application was made and (c) an indication that in principle they had secured loan facilities from Barclays Bank to the extent of £10 million designed to overcome potential cash flow difficulties in the earlier years of the licence.

Assuming that their forecasts were credible, that nothing worse befell them than was contem-plated by the sensitivity tests, that the networking arrangements were as indicated in the invitation forthcoming, TSW's very large bid would still not have prevented them making a respectable profit over the licence period as a whole. There were four sources from which it was possible to ascertain why ITC was not satisfied that TSW's application met the sustainability condition. In many ways the most important were the contemporaneous staff assessment papers No 179(91) and 203(91) read with the members

agreement to record in the minutes any reasons other than those summarised in the papers. The latter staff assessment paper focused on a comparison among five applications in respect of which an issue arose as to sustainability. In the case of TSW it suggested that revenue projections were optimistic, that the cash bid in absolute terms and as

a percentage of revenue was one of the highest and that TSW was proposing to bid a sum annually which very closely approached its 1992 balance sheet value. His Lordship considered that the ITC was not mechanically applying a different covert sensitivity test such as a 4 per cent NAR growth rate. It was considering how close to the margin of credibility and prudence the applicants were going on the footing

one or two respects than if it was small in all or most respects. Role of court The role of the court was to consider whether the licensing procedure was fairly conducted and whether ITC correctly directed itself as to the law and as to

that the requirement of

sustainability was more easily met

if the margin was small only in

If it erred, the court then had to exercise a judicial discretion whether to grant any and if so what relief: see R v Monopoliss and Mergers Commission, Ex parte Argyll Group plc (1986) 1 WLR 763, 774-775, 778-779.

the facts.

TSW's primary complaint
His Lordship referred to R v
Secretary of State for the Home Department, Ex parte Brind [1991] 1 AC 696, 722) where, explaining Lord Diplock's classifications of grounds for ju-dicial review in Council of Civil Service Unions v Minister for the Civil Service [1985] AC 374. 410), he had warned against the

strict categorisation of separate heads of relief. His Lordship recently had detected a tendency to regard "legitimate expectation" as a separate and perhaps additional ground for judicial review. It was not. It was a particular aspect of natural justice or fairness which depended on and might be included in Lord Diplock's "pro-

cedural impropriety.

It was clear that if the invitation was misleading and as a result TSW made an application on a basis they would not otherwise have adopted, they suffered an injustice which the law should if essible redress. It was sufficient if a public authority led the complainant to believe that it would continue to act in a particular way unless and until it gave

notice to the contrary.

It had also been said that the words "and/or conduct" had to particular way clearly, unambiguously and without relevant qualification: see R v IRC, Ex parte MFK Underwriting Agents Ltd ([1990] 1 WLR 1545, 1569) per Lord Justice Bingham.

Where his Lordship ventured to think that Lord Justice Bingham's judgment might be misunder stood was when he said that if in private law a body would be in breach of contract in so acting or estopped from so acting, a public authority should be in no better position. The doctrine of legitimate expectation was rooted in

fairness.

That was plainly right, but there was a risk that it might be read as importing into public law concepts of private law.

entered in relation to R v IRC, Exparte Preston (1985) AC 835. 866-867) per Lord Templeman. The test in public law was fairness not an adaptation of the law of contract or estoppel. His Lordship was satisfied that

TSW's primary complaint was not made out. The evidence did not bear out their submission that ITC had based its decision on a TSW knew that ITC was required by statute to satisfy itself as

to the sustainability requirement. They had studied the draft invitation and had appreciated that ITC was not revealing what evaluation criteria it would apply to the business plans.
TSW also knew that the ITC

would seek to satisfy itself that the assumptions underlying the applicants' forecasts had been thoroughly considered, were ent and were credible. But the inclusion of the words "inter

alia" were a clear indication that that was not an all-embracing description of the approach which

the ITC would adopt.
TSW were not therefore justified in expecting that ITC would limit itself to considering whether the applicants' forecasts met the requirements of the invitation read with the sensitivity tests.

TSW's secondary complaint
TSW's complaint that the staff
paper 179(91) was flawed on
account of its failure to assess
their bid fairly or accurately was,
in his Lordship's judgment, made

It was a fundamental requirement of ITC's approach to its task that the resulting staff assess ments, while properly expressing the staff views and advice should contain full, fair and balanced accounts of the evidence and issues. Paper 179(91) did not meet that requirement in a number of ways.
The ITC was not, or should not

have been engaged in deciding whether TSW's bid was prudent from the point of view of their shareholders. Nor should it have been concerned with whether TSW wished to maintain the service if it became unexpectedly

unprofitable.

The only relevant question for ITC was that stemming from section 16(1)(b), whether mem-

oner balance.

agreed that the primary com-plaint was not made out.

With regard to the secondary complaint, it had to be borne in

would be able to maintain the service. That was required to be satisfied not to the criminal standard of proof but on a balance of

robabilites. In his Lordship's view the paper 179(91) did not state the case for as well as against the TSW application fairly, fully and with

His Lordship therefore considered that there were reasonable grounds for considering that TSW's bid did not receive the fair evaluation to which it was entitled

under the Act read with the invitation. His Lordship would have set aside the decision.

mind that the minutes of the meetings held on October 10 and 11, 1991, at which the decision was taken, made record of no reservations about the contents of

paper 179(91).

His Lordship agreed with the Master of the Rolls that the paper might be criticised as failing in a number of respects to provide a balanced picture of the TSW bid but he was unable to accept that the deficiencies might be assumed

cussions were limited in any way by the contents of the staff

issessments. His Lordship attached importance to the fact that there had never been any suggestion by TSW of deliberate unfairness, and that they evidently accepted that the shortcomings in the paper could not be shown to have had a critical effect on the ul-

SOUTH THE STATE STATE BEST WERE

timate decision. That accorded with His Lordship's view. He would dismiss the

concurring in the result with Lord Justice Nolan, said that the staff assessment paper 179(91) dealt inadequately and unfairly with the issue of TSW's growth figure.

It seemed to his Lordship that certain of the misleading com-ment was such an obvious distortion of the true position that the experienced members of ITC would probably not have been misled by it. On balance, it was not established that ITC's decision was influenced by the so that that challenge failed

Solicitors: Travers Smith

Council can evict trespasser without housing enquiry

There was no requirement or statutory obligation on a local authority to determine whether an admitted trespasser was home-less or in priority housing need before deciding whether to seek an order for possession of its own property from him.

Mr Justice Otton so held in the

Queen's Bench Division rejecting an application by Ronald Frederick Grumbridge for judicial review of the respondent council's decision to seek a possession order on the council flat where he lived. Mr David Watkinson for the

applicant: Mr Joseph Harper for the respondent. MR JUSTICE OTTON said

that until March 1988 Mr Grumbridge had occupied the flat as a licensee of the tenant. The tenant had subsequently moved out and the council had served notice to ouit.

The applicant had consulted solicitors who wrote to the council pointing out that he was homeless and in priority need and inviting the council to undertake enquiries Act 1985.

under section 58 of the Housing Mr Watkinson had relied on

Regina v Barnet London
Borongh Council. Ex parte
Grumbridge
Before Mr Justice Otton
[Judgment January 30]
There was no requirement or requirement or council which had failed to council which had fai provide ·alternative accommodation.

In those cases gypsies had challenged eviction orders because the councils had failed to fulfil their statutory obligations to provide caravan sites.

different. The applicant had become a trespasser when the tenant the local authority to determine whether the applicant had a priority need to be rehoused before deciding whether to institute proceedings for possession. Nor could it be said that the

Solicitors: Hughmans: Mr G. R. L. Creer, Hendon.

THE TIMES

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BBC 1

- 6.00 Ceefax (82656) 5.30 BBC Breakfast News (52771699)
 9.05 Kilroy. Robert Kilroy-Silk chairs a studio discussion on a topical subject (4416216) 9.50 Hot Chefs. More bistro-type food from Antony Worrall Thompson (5341194)
 10.00 News, regional news and weather (6108007) 10.05 Playdays. For the very young (r) (1961129) 10.25 Plagu. Animated adventures of a clumsy penguin (r) (6101194) 10.35 No Kidding. Family quitz game show hosted by Mike Smith with Kate Copstick (a) (576588)
 11.00 News, regional news and weather 11.05 Travel Show Extra. Reports on Torbay in Devon, Hungary's Lake Belaton, the Forest of Dean in Gioucestershite and the Aeolian Islands of southern Italy (7575839) 11.30 People Today introduced by Mirram Stoppard and Russell Grant (3251738)

- (7575939) 11.30 People Today introduced by Miriam Stoppard and Russell Grant (3251736)

 12.20 People Mill. Music and chat presented by Alan Titchmaret (s) (3150200) 12.55 Regional News and weather (90257842)

 1.00 One O'Clock News and weather (56842) 1.30 Neighbours. (Ceefex) (s) (60379113)

 1.50 Film: The Saboteur, Code Name "Moritum" (1965, b/w) staming Marion Brando and Yul Brynner. Heavy-going second world war drama about a German ermy deserter, hiding out in India, who is discovered by British intelligence and forced into helping capture a Nazi cargo ship. Directed by Bernhard Wicki (3139465)

 3.50 Bitsa. Simon Pascoe and Calitin Easterby with ideas on recycling household junk into useful objects (6109945) 4.05 Jackanory. David Heely with the last part of Stanley in Space (6533736) 4.20

 The Further Adventures of SuperTed (r) (9120620) 4.30 Henger 17 presented by Mickey Hutton. The guests are magician Jeff McBride, comedian Steve Rawlings and the band Take That (s) (2516755)

 4.55 Newaround Extra. Terry Baddoo reports from Albertville in the
- 4.55 Newsround Extre. Terry Beddoo reports from Albertville in the French Alps on the eve of the Winter Olympics (3259129) 5.05 Grange Hill. Children's school drama serial. (Ceetax) (s) (5716215) 5.35 Neighbours (r) (Ceefax) (s) (783741). Northern Ireland: Inside
- 6.00 Six O'Clock News with Peter Sissons and Anna Ford, (Ceefax)
- Weather (804)
 6.30 Regional News Magazinea (484). Northern Ireland: Neighbours
 7.00 Wogan (s) (528656)
 7.35 Harry and the Hendersons. Comedy series about a suburban
- American family who adopt a large creature after accidentally wounding it on a weekend trip to the country. (Ceefax) (s) (422345)

 8.00 Grace and Favour. Camp comedy with the staff of Grace Brothers relocated to a country total. (Ceefax) (s) (3200) 8.30 Caucht in the Act. Shane Richie introduces another se
- home movie disasters. (Caefax) (s) (9007)

 9.00 Nine O'Clock News with Martyn Lewis. (Cesfax) Regional news



Unrequited love: Adam Faith and Zoe Wanamaker (9.30pm

- 9.30 Love Hurts. Comedy drama from the Birds of a Feather team of Laurence Marks and Maurice Gran starring Adam Faith as a self-made millionaire who falls for idealistic charity worker (Zoë Wanameker) but finds his passion is not reciprocaled. (Ceefax) (s)
- (356262)10.20 Snooker. The last quarter-final of the Benson and Hedges Masters, Introduced by Eamonn Holmes from the Wernbley Conference Centre (794668)
- 11.20 Film: Slither (1973). Film: Stittler (1973).
 CHOICE: A delightfully unorthodox comedy-thriller sends exconvict James Caan rattling across California on the trail of hidden loot in the company of kooky Sally Kellerman, toothy Louise Lasser and villainous Peter Boyle, with a couple of black mobile homes in creepy pursuit. The enigmatic script by W.D. Richter sets the tone for an engaging film which successfully welds together a variety of styles and moods and is enriched by superb photography from the Easy Rider cameraman Laszo Kovaks. Slither was the directing debut of Howard Zieff, a recruit from American television. Zieff's handling is impeccable, effortlessly switching from hard-edged suspense to deflating slapstick and working in a series of movie parodies which are clever but never forced. After this fine start Zieff went on to make House Calls with Walter Mattheu and Glanda Jackson and Private Benjamin with Goldie Hawn (323718). Northern Ireland: Sportscene 11.45-1.25am Film: The Carey Treatment 12.55am Weather (6969934)

BBC 2

8.00 Breakfast News (2630397) 8.15 Westminster. A round-up of business from both House (9655281)

The second secon

- (9555251)

 9.00 Daytime on 2. Educational programmes

 2.00 News and weather (10683910) followed by Words and Pictures.

 Reading for five to seven-year-olds (74235026) 2.15 Weekend
 Outlook, Open University preview (10673533)
- 2.20 Sport on Friday introduced by Helen Rollsson. Snooker: the third quarter-final of the Benson and Hedges Masters; Golf: highlights of the AT and T tournament from Pebble Beach; Winter Olympics: a preview of Sunday's men's downhill; Cricket: highlights of the accord day's play in the final Test between New Zealand and England in Wellington, includes news and weather at 3.00 and 3.55 (58611823) 5.05 Behind the Headlines presented by Shyama Perera (s) (5714858)
- 5.35 The Clothes Show. Includes tips for shopping on a sh news of a large discount clothing and footwear:
- (\$83723)
 6.00 Thunderbirds. Cult puppet adventures created by Gerry Anderson. (Ceefax) (\$24910)
 6.50 Dr Who (b/w). Episode two df a five-part adventure The Mind Robber, first shown in 1988, starring Patrick Troughton as the doctor and Freser Hines (300484)
 7.15 100%. Tenage magazine series. This week's edition includes conversations with young ME sufferers (752649) (s)
 8.00 Public Eyes Out of Line, Out of Reach? Martin Bashir investigates the police disciplinary system. Senior police officers, lawyers and claimants all give their views (1842)
 8.30 Old Garden, New Gardener. Geoff Hemilton and Gay Search tackle garden boundaries for the novice gardener. (Ceefax) (7649)
 9.00 Victoris Wood as Seen on TV. More from the comedienne's first series, shown in 1985. Combines songs, monologues, sketches
- series, shown in 1965. Combines songs, monologues, sketches and the wonderful spoof soap Acom Antiques. With Julie Walters, Celia Imrie, Duncan Preston, Susie Blake and Patricia Routledge



Actions speak louder than words director Oliver Stone (9.30 pm)

- 9.30 Arena: Oliver Stone. CHOICE: The one thing thankfully missing from a timely portrait of the director of JFK is a rehash of the uproar that has broken out around that film. Instead of yet another debate about who really killed President Kennedy we get a solid backgrounder on Stone's career, built on traditional lines around clips and interviews. Stone himself is very good value, not least when he adopts his characteristic ploy of responding to a tricky question with a long silence. For those even moderately acquainted with the subject there will be few surprises, partly because Stone has put so much of himself in his work. His Vietnam film Platoon is not just vaguely autobiographical but, if this account is to be believed, virtually a blow-by-blow account. Stone's French mother contributes usefully to the programme, while cinema collaborators such as Micha-Douglas and Charlie Sheen add their love-hate tributes (87755)
- Douglas and Charle Sheen add their love-hate tributes (87755)

 10.30 Newsnight presented by Peter Snow (552904)

 11.15 What the Papers Say. With Robert Fox of the Daily Telegraph (842129). Wales: Wales in Westminster 11.45-12.00 What the Papers Say 11.30 Scrutiny, lain McWritter examines the work of parliamentary committees (64718) 12.00 Weather (7280576)

 12.05am Film: Strange Place to Meet (1988) starring Catherine Deneuve and Gérard Depardieu, French drama about a wife, demand that the tribute are the starting of the starting Catherine Deneuve and Gérard Depardieu. dumped in a lay-by by her husband after an argument, who forms a romantic attachment with a cantankerous doctor. A thinnish piece
- is lifted by excellent star performances. Directed by François Dupeyron. English subtitles (433088)

 1.40 Behind the Headlines (1) (8938663). Ends at 2.15

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ITV

- 6.00 TV-am (9649397)
- 9.25 Keynotes. Music game for teams, hosted by Alistair Divell (1483939) 9.55 Thames News (4402735)
 10.00 The Time... The Place... Topical discussion series (5015295)
 10.40 This Morning. Magazine on family matters introduced by Richard Madeley and Judy Finnigan. Today's edition includes fashion, hair and make-up advice; and Play III for would-be musicians (3115823) 12.10 Reinbow. Young children's entertainment (2821485) 12.30 News with John Suchet: (Oracle) Weather (6976823) 1.10
- 12.30 News with John Suchet: (Oracle) Weather (6976823) 1.10
 Thames News (53826026)
 1.20 Home and Away. Australian family drama serial. (Oracle)
 (97732755) 1.50 A Country Practice. Medical drama serial set in a
 small Australian outback town (a) (52143649).
 2.20 Highway to Heaven. The late Michael Landon stars in this
 lighthearted drama series as a apprehitical angel earning his wings
 by righting wrongs on Earth. In this episode he comes to the aid of
 a disabled Vistnam war veteran who is fighting a bigger battle now
 that he is back home (8272849)
 3.15 ITN News headlines (8089842) 3.20 Thames News headlines
 (8086755) 3.25 The Young Doctors (6492194)
 3.55 Carboon featuring Porky Pig (r) (7840991) 4.05 Tiny Toon
 Adventures. Cartoon (8898674) 4.25 Tructors. Animated
 adventure series. With the volces of Joe McGarm and Sir Michael
- adventure series. With the voices of Joe McSann and Sir Michael Hordern (5548568) 4.40 Wooff Cornedy series about a boy who keeps on turning into a dog. (Oracle) (s) (1240571) 5.10 Home and Away (r). (Oracle) (5637755) 5.40 Naws with Fioria Armstrong. (Oracle) Weather (285552) 5.55 6 O'Clock Live presented by Frank Bough and Joanna Sheldon.
- Among the guests are actress Lysette Anthony and chef Ken Hom (677561) 8.55 The Day, With Jo, a Greenwich mother of triplets, as she prepares to help them celebrate their second birthday
- (828465)
 7.00 Family Fortunes. Outz game show for families, hosted by Les
- Dennis (9620)
 7.30 Commation Street. (Oracle) (798)
 8.00 Watching. Last in the romantic comedy series starring Emma.
 Way and Paul Bown. (Oracle) (s) (5668)



Second time Incky? Lynda Bellingham, James Bolam (8.30pm)

- 8.30 Second Thoughts. Shrewdly-observed comedy starring James Bolam and Lynda Bellingham as a couple contemplating marriage for the second time. (Oracle) (s) (8213)

 9.00 The Good Guys. Affable comedy-drama following the
- misadventure of two men who share a home and the same name. In this episode, written by John Fortune, the two Guys are drawn to a Scottish castle by tales of ghosts and hidden tressure. Starring Nigel Havers, Keith Berron and, this week, Jenny Agutter. (Oracle)
- 10.00 News at Ten with Julia Somerville and Fione Armstrong. (Oracle) Weather (410194) 10.35 LWT News and weather (407465).

 10.40 The London Programme. Trevor Phillips looks at what lies in store for Alexandra Palace in north London (830194)
- 11.15 Loose Cannon. American detective series starring Shadoe Stevens (830723) 12.10am My Riviera. Joan Collins talks about her new home in the south of France (5734717)
- 12.40 Freestyle Skiing. A look at the sport that makes its official debut
- in the Winter Olympics (5620682)

 1.05 The James Whale Radio Show. The acerbic chat show host insuits another clutch of phoners-in (5225088)

 2.10 American Gladietors. Feats of strength and ingenuity for both
- sexes (3300040) -3.10 CinemAttractions. The latest movie news from the United States
- (16/02576) 3.40 Raw Power. Rock videos (4683084)
- 4.40 Kojak. The New York policeman helps a discredited collected redeem his reputation. Starring Telly Savalas (7550088)
 5.36 FTN Morning News with Phil Roman (91205). Ends at 6.06

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

THE COMEDY CHANNEL

CHANNEL 4

ž.

- 6.00 Channel 4 Daily (9647939) 9.25 Schools (94844281) The Parliament Programme presented by Serah Baxter. Includes Sir Robin Day interviewing the foreign secretary Douglas 12.00 The Pa Hund (51 129) es Daily. The latest news from the world's business
- 12.30 Business Daily. The latest news from the world's business centres (95007)
 1.00 Sesame Street. Pre-school learning series from the United States. The guest is the actor Robin Williams (83262)
 2.90 Film: Sents Fe Trail (1940, b/w) starring Errol Flynn, Raymond Massey, Oilvia de Havilland and Ronald Reagan. Western high on vigour and low on historical accuracy with Reagan as Custer and Massey as the anti-slavery campaigner John Brown, who sometrow ends up as the villain. Directed with his usual professionalism by Michael Curtiz (9842)
 4.00 Travelog. A repeat of Wednesday's programme in which Lady
- Travelog. A repeat of Wednesday's programme in which Lady Valerie Solti and Mrs Adua Pavarotti explore the cultural delights of
- Valerie Sotti and Mrs Ackus Pavarotti explore the cultural delights of the italian city of Bologna. (Teletant) (s) (465)

 4.30 Countdown. Another round of the words and numbers game, hosted by Richard Whiteley (s) (649)

 5.00 The Felidands War. A repeat showing of Monday's final programme in the series examining the facts behind the Argentinian investion of the Falidands. (Teletant) (6533)

 6.00 Happy Days. Nostalgic cornedy about high school days in 1950s

 Milwaukee. Starning Henry Winkler and Ron Howard (842)

 6.30 Tonight with Jonathan Ross. The guests are Caribbean cook Rusty Lee and cornection Rowland Rivron in the guise as hey do the Rritish Winter Ohrmoles, teem. Music is provided as hey do
- Rusty Lee and cornection Rowland Rivron in the guise as head of the British Winter Olympics team. Music is provided by the Canacian band Corky and the Juice Pigs and, with their latest single "The Statue Got Me High", They Might Be Giants (s) (194) 7.00 Channel 4 News with Jon Snow and Zeinab Badawi. (Teletext) Weather (653804) 7.50 First Reaction (959674) 8.00 Brookside. Scap set in a Merseyside close. (Teletext) (a) (6910) 8.30 Castabowi. The newspaper sports quiz continues with the the sports desk of the Mail on Sunday against their counterparts from the Sunday Express (s) (6945)
- the Sunday Express (s) (8945) 9.00 Cheers. Award-winning American cornecty series set in a Boston bar (4858) 9.30 How Does Your Garden Grow? Exceptional series in which Philip
- Wood and David Wilson explore the unsuing private gardens of Ireland. Today they are in the Dalkey, Co Dublin, garden of Brien Wood which is heavily influenced by oriental design and content (43741) 10.00 Dream On. Sometimes very funny adult comedy series starring
- Brian Benben as a publisher in his late 30s trying to adjust to single status after his 12-year-old marriage ends in divorce. This week he refuses to listen to his friend's warnings when he starts to date an old flame. (Teletext) (s) (418736)
- 10.35 Whose Line is it Anyway? presented by Cive Anderson. Improvised comedy sketch show. With Tony Slettery, Josie Lawrence, Paul Merton and Steve Frost (s) (252755) 11.05 The Word. Showbiz magazine series (s) (733842)



Super troupers: the pop group Abba down under (12.05am)

12.05am Film: Abba the Movie (1977). A documentary record of the Swedish pop group's Australian tour. Directed by Lasse Hallstrom (258224)1.50 Tonight with Jonathan Ross. See 6.30 (r) (s) (8122583). Ends at

ITV VARIATIONS

ANGLIA

As London except: 2.20pm-3.15 Metiock (8272849) 5.10-5.40 Coming of Age (8437755) 8.00 Home and Away (895842) 6.25-7.00 Angle News (120543) 16.45 Cross Cuestion (495129) 11.40 Tour of Duty (618194) 12.35-1.05em Dirty Dencing Processing BORDER

Friday (200) 6.30-7.00 Take the High Road (552) 10.40 Up Country (253484) 11.10 Beauty and the Beaut (734571) 12.10-10.5em Philip Markowe: Private Eye (9577155) 2.05 Jaku and the Februar (3310427) 3.00 CinemAttractions (3010427) 3.50 Markowe: Philip Mark (30905021) 3.25 Night Best (2764156) 4.25 Delayed Action (1022021) 5.25-5.30 Pop

CEN 1 FAL.
As London except: 2.20-3.15pm Donehue
(8273549) 3.25-3.55 The Countryside Show
(8492194) 5.10-5.40 Animal Country
(8537753) 8.00 Home and Away (855842)
8.25-7.00 Central News (120543) 10.40
Central Weekend (7437555) 12.10-1.05am
The Equatizer (8577156) 2.05 Fizz: Hornor
Express (663514) 3.45 Hit Marr and Her
(821392) 4.45-5.30 Jobs (2208972)

6.55am Weather; News Headlines 7.00 Morraing Concert: Corelli (Concerto Grosso in F, Op 6 No 6; Poulenc (Trots mouvements perpétuels); Saint-Saère (Prelude, Le Déluge, Op 45; 7.30 News 7.30 Morring Concert (cont); Prokofiev (Sonata for solo violar in D, Op 115); Bach (Suite No 1 in C, BWV 1068); Haydn (Andante and

Haydin (Andante and Variations in F minor, H XVII 6)

Variations in F minor, H XVII 6)
8.30 News
8.35 Composers of the Week:
Schubert. Overture in B flat, D
470 (LPO under Raymond
Leppard); Rondo, Op 70 (Issac
Stem, violin, Daniel
Barenborm, pleno); Symphony
No 6 in C, D 589 (Australian
CO under Charles Mackerras)
9.35 Morning Sequence: Debussy
(Synnx); R.R. Bennett (Sonata
after Syrinx); Mozart (Rondo in
A minor, K 511); J.M. Sperger
(Trio No 2 in G); Panufnik
(Bassoon Concerto, 1985);

A frithor, K 511; J.M. Sperger
(Trio No 2 in G); Parufnik
(Bassoon Concerto, 1985);
Talivaldis Kennins (Sonata No
1, 1981); Brahms (Four Pieces,
Op 119); N. Maw (Night
Thoughts for solo flute);
Ginestera (Danzas Argentinas,
Op 2; Maw (Roman Canticle);
Debussy (Sonata for flute,
viola and harp)
12.00 BBC Concert Orchestra
under Barry Wordsworth
performs Barners (Caprice
peruvien); Rawathorne (Plano
Concerto No 1: Malcolm
Blinns); Lambert (Music for
orchestra); Foulds (ArabianNight), Delius (Dance
Rinapsody No 1) (r)
1.00pm News
1.05 Chamber Music from
Manchester: Brinds! String
Quartet performs Mozart

Quartet performs Mozart (Quartet in 8 flat, K 589); Fauré (Quartet in E minor, Op

joys of this monthly magazine, presented by James Naughtle with the infectious enthusesm

he admirebly keeps in check in The World at One, is that it minuties as well as the big

2.00 Opera News

• CHOICE: One of the many

GRANADA

As London except: 2.20-3.15pm Donahun As London except: 2.20-3.15pm Donahus (8272848) 5.10-5.40 Dinoseurs (5857755) 6.00 Home and Awey (200) 6.30-7.00 Graneda Tonight (585) 10.40 This Mart... This Womat... (29714485) 12.35-1.05em Siedge Harmer (7861972) 2.05 Jake and the Fatmen (3310427) 3.00 CinemAttractions (30905021) 3.25 Night Beet (2764156) 4.25 Film: Delayed Action (1022021) 5.25-5.30 Soho - In Profile (1526904)

As London except: 1,50pm-3,15 Asseuth on the Wayne (7417574) 8.00 Lookaround As London except: 1,50pm The Young HTV WEST

RADIO 3

Doctora (52143549) 2.20-3.15 Mattlock (8272549) 3.25-3.55 A Country Practice (8482194) 8.00 HTV News (200) 6.30-7.00 HTV Sportsweek (552) 10.40 Philip Maclowe: Private Eye (307281) 11.40-1.05pm McCloud: London Bridgee (542842) **10-3**.15 k

HTV WALES As HTV West except: 6.00pm Wales at Six 6.50-7.00 Stopwatch 10.46-11.40 Music

I SW As London except: 2.20 The Sullivers (36188787) 2.50-8.15 The Young Doctors (4123571) 3.23-3.55 Home and Away (8493823) 5.10-5.40 The Mansters Today (5637755) 6.00 TSW Today (200) 6.30-7.00 Gardens for Al (552) 10.40 Firm save the Tiger (23714465) 12.35am Verhamic the Ten Thousand Day War (7861972) 2.05 Jake and

Mélisande and Opera North's

how to smother the opera house cough at birth. Inevitably, Payarotti's hankie is flourished (r)

2.45 Debut: The pianist Bruce Brubaker plays Brahms. (Fantasies, Op 118)

3.15 Youth Orchestras of the World: Members of the Milwaukee Youth SO and their conductor. Memory Deutsch.

Milwaukee Youth SO and their conductor, Margery Deutsch, introduce their concert at the Aberdeen international Youth Featival, Copland (Suits, The Tender Land); John Downey (Ode to Freedom — first performance); Seint-Saëns (Introduction and Rondo Capriccioso with Erig Akindge, violin); Dvoralk (Symphony No 8 in G)

5.00 Mainly for Pleasure

6.30 Cool and Crazy; The second of four programmes in which the American trumpeter and composer Shorty Rodgers, talks to Alyn Shipton

7.00 News

7.00 News
7.05 Third Ear: William Feaver
talks to the artist Lucian Fraud
7.30 BBC Welsh SO under

the Februar (3310427) 3.00 CinemAttrections (3000527) 3.25 Night Beat (2784156) fractions (3000527) 3.25 Night Beat (2784156) 4.25 Film: Delayed Action (1022021) 5.25 - (2784156) 4.25 Film: Delayed Action (1022021) 5.25 - 5.30 Soho in Profile TVS

As London except: 2.20pm Yan Can Cook (36188787) 2.50-3.20 Coming of Age (4123571) 3.25-3.55 Sons and Daughers (5492194) 6.00 Coest to Coest (229735) 9.50-7.00 Police 5 (841859) 10.40 Ski Tipe (253484) 11.10 First: Capitain Kroncos — Vampire Hunter (806084) 12.50-1.05em What Are We Talking? (5921868)

I YNE TEES
As London except; 2.50-3.25 Wild America.
(123571) 6.00 Northern Life (200) 6.30-7.00
The Travel Megazine (552) 10.40 DTY TV
(207351) 11.40 Beauty and the Seast
(2103231) 12.10am Philip Meriower Private
Eye (4124779) 12.35-1.05 Coach (7861972)
2.05 Julca and the Fatman (3310427) 3.00
Daily (34 (3310427) 3.00
Creanitytections (30305021) 3.25 North (131073)
Beat (2764159 4.25 Fant Delayed Auton (1022021) 5.25-5.30 Scho — in Profise (1529904)

ULSTER OLS 12.11
As London except: 1,50pm Sons and Daughters (\$2143649) 2.25-3.15 Donahue (\$260689) 3.25-3.25 Check It Out (\$482194) 6.00 Str. Tonight (200) 6.30-7.00 Glenros (\$52) 10.40 Kelly (7437656) 12,10-1.05em Prisoner: Cell Block H (\$577158) 2.05 Jake

YORKSHIRE As Landon except: 1.55mm Film: The History As London except: 1.55pm Flux: The Hide-Out (355518) 3.00-3.15 Keep Fit With Calve (773168) 8.00 Caleodar (200) 8.30-7.00 Simpuzara (552) 10.40 Flm: Smetched (3780194) 12.06em War of the Works (9570245) 2.05 Zara Dhyan Dain (2568934) 2.10 Flim: Meet Mere Man Ke (55754040) 5.05-5.30 Out of Limits (4787330)

a S4C

0 Starts: 6.00am C4 Daily (8647839) 9.25

Ysgolion (34844281) 12.00 Parliament Programme (51129) 12.20pen Newyddion (82103397) 12.40 Stot Melithrin (4844129) 1.00 Countdown (46552) 1.30 Business Daily (94878) 2.00 Piam: Saratoga Trunk ti (15116785) 4.25 Stot 28 (26119395) 5.00 My Two Dails (7028) 5.00 Brookside (129) 6.00 Newyddion (337858) 6.10 Piamo (816282) 7.00 Pobol Y Cwm (7252) 7.30 Pobol Y Cwm (7252) 7.30 Meser Chwarae (378) 8.00 Cefa Gwised (9910) 8.30 Newyddion (380200) 8.55 Shootawm (168129) 8.30 Vicr Reeves Big Might Out (168129) 8.30 Vicr Reeves Big Might Out (168129) 8.30 Vicr Reeves Big Might Out (168129) 8.12 Union Chwarae (378822) 12.055mm Firm Albae the Movie (258224) 1.50 Tonight With Jonathan Rose (8122583) 2.20 Diwedd

SATELLITE SKY ONE

 Vie the Astre and Marcopolo sate e Vie the Astra and Marcopolo satalities. B.00am The DJ Ket Show (2/769755) 8.40 Mrs Pepperpot (6255533) 8.55 Playabout (4613910) 9.10 Cantoons (4215939) 9.30 The New Leave it to Beaver (24567) 10.00 Maude (43804) 10.30 The Young Doctors (61179) 11.30 The Young and the Beautiful (57397) 11.30 The Young and the Restiess (28026) 12.30 Manually Jones (46688) 1.30 Another World (4568823) 2.20 Sertia Barbara (79360200) 2.45 Wife of the Week

O Via the Astra and Mercopolo satellites.

6.00am Showcase (449974)

10.00 The Witching of Ben Wagner: A boy befinends a grf. whose mother is a witch (29991)

7.20 Pick of the Week (FIM only), with Chris Serie (s)
7.20 Woman's Hour (LW only) (r)
8.05 Any Questions? Jonathan Dimbleby is joined in Cumbernauld, Scotland, by John Biffen, MP, Donald Dewar, MP, shadow secretary of state for Scotland: Margaret Ewing, MP, leader of the Scotlash Netional Party perfamentary orgonic and Alan performan neutorial Party
performantiany group; and Alan
Beith, MP, treasury
spokeaman for the Liberal
Democrats
8.50 Law in Action, with Mercel

Berins
9.15 Kaleidoscopa: Crooning Like Ballous Pigeons

CHOICE: During Paul
Allen's investigation, popular
myths about the human voice

are shot down like grouse on the Glorious Twelfth. We have it on the authority of the National Theatre's voice expert no less that, whatever expert no less that, whatever its social implications, blowing respheries is both good fun and good for drama students. From other unimpeschable sources, we learn that RP (received pronunciation) is not the be and end all of successful acting, that regional accents should be cherished, that there is no such thing as tone deathess.

disguise themselves as nune (2015953)
3.05 Burndown (1885): Reporter Cathy
Moriarty Investigates a metadown at a
nuclear power plant (4708965)
4.90 Made in LA (1890): Thriller about two
rivals (18427). Ends at 6.00 Vis the Astra and Marcopole sets
6.15am The Roaring Twenties (1939,
Gangster melodrams (100668)
8.15 New There, the York Roari (2019)
8.15 New There (2019)
8.15 New Th 8.15 Hey There, It's You Beart (2009/578)
10.00 The Tarring of the Shriew (1967):
Shekespear's play (33194656)
12.15pm The Postman Always Rings
Twice (1946, b/w): Lara Turner plots to
musder hasband Cack Kellewey (94/216)
2.15 Columbo: Caustion, Murder Can Be a
Hazzardous Affair (1991): Starring Peter Faik
as the crampied detective (55759)
4.15 The Further Advantures of the
Wilderness Pamily (1978) (531646)
6.15 Day for Thanks on Waltons' Mountain (1982): The 1930s American family looks
forward to Thankspiving day (544113)
8.15 Vital Signs (1980): Hospital charne Barbara (79390200) 2.45 Wife of the Week (772587) 3.15 The Brady Bunch (696200) 3.45 The DJ Kat Show (467910) 5.00 Diffrent Strokes (5178) 5.30. Bewitched (7804) 6.00 Facts of Life (6045) 6.30 Candid Camera (6997) 7.00 Love at First Sight (3113) 7.30 Parker Lewis (7281) 8.00 Rags to Richas (6030) 9.00 Hunter (8493) 10.00 WWF Superstant of Weeting (87025) 11.00 Film: Bucket of Blood (75200) 1.00am Pages from Skylact

● Vis the Astra and Mercopolo satellites.
Neues on the hour.
6.00am Sundse (1738007) 9.30 Nightline (22123) 10.00 Dayline (47674) 10.30 Retrospective 1970-1931 (97931) 31.00 Dayline (5939) 11.30 Neveline (26939) 12.30 pm (5939) 11.30 Neveline (26939) 12.30 pm (5939) 11.30 Neveline (2693) 12.30 Parliament Live (44691) 3.30 This Lords (5693) 4.30 Retrospective 1970-1991 (4194) 5.00 Live at Five (11939) 6.30 Neveline (18649) 8.30 Retrospective 1970-1991 (59113) 10.30 Neveline (86281) 11.30 ABC Neves (56223) 12.30am Neveline (86281) 11.30 ABC Neves (56523) 12.30am Neveline (86281) 11.30 ABC Neves (56523) 13.30 ABC Nevel (1970) 1970 1997 (13972) 5.30 Neveline (60359) SKY MOVIES+

SKY MOVIES+

4.00pm Mr. Ed. (2910) 4.30 Petiticoet Junction (8194) 5.00 The New Leave It To Seaver (1:29) 5.30 Greenacres (5674) 8.00 Here's Lucy (2587) 6.30 F Troop (3789) 7.00 McHale's Newy (6485) 7.30 The Addurss Family (8823) 8.00 Are You Being Server? (7113) 8.30 Babes (8820) 9.00 Hogan's Herees (20281) 9.30 Here's Lucy (11755) 10.00 In Living Color (90397) 10.30 The Addurss Family (62345) befinancia a gvf. whose mother is a witch (28991) 12.00 Andrea's Story (1986): The night-mare journey of a gld hitchinker (38378) 1.00pm The Fourth Man (1990) A high school sthiete tekes stander (45026) 2.00 Secret of the Ice Cave (1989): A slowaway finds a treasure map (78378) 4.00 Sid Patrol (1989): Comedy about a group of siders (7257277) 6.00 Beyond the Stars (1989): Christian Sleter has high-fiying ambitance (81842) 8.00 Howling V: The Rebirth (1989). Travellers are stranded in a castle (28083442) SKY SPORTS Sr.Y SP-URLS

• Vis the Astra and Mercopolo satisfities.
8.30am Aerobics (90736) 7.00 US Olympic
Trists Women's Mazathan (98282) 8.00
Supertrax (37991) 9.00 Boots and Alt Rugby
Langue Magazine (71216) 10.00 European
League Football (21194) 11.00 Calciust
World Saries Cup (14856) 12.00 Aerobics
(47689) 12.30prs World Cyclo-Cross
(14869) 12.30prs World Cyclo-Cross
(14869) 12.30 Ford Ski Report (84633) 3.30
Moter World (4303) 4.00 Asian Snooker

is hounded by local police (\$28200) 11.45 A.W.O.L. (1990) Jean-Claude Ven

RADIO 1

FM Stereo and MW. 4.00am Gary King (FM only) 6.00 Simon Mayo 9.00 Simon Bates: Live from New York 12.30pm Newsbeat 12.45

Gary Device Says: Let's Do Lunch 3.00 Steve Wright in the Afternoon 5.50 News '22.6.00

Hound Table 7.00 The Essential Selection 10.00 Friday Rock Show 12.00-4.00am Andy Peebles Double Bill (FM only): Soul Train; 2.00 Night Train

RADIO 2

FM Shere: 4.00am Steve Madden: The Early Snow 6.30 Brian Hayes: Good Morning UKI 9.30 Km Bruce 11.30 Jimmy Young 2.00pm Gloria Humsford 3.30 Ed Stewart 5.06 Chris Sauart 7.00 Mind Your Own Businessi The Party Spirit (r) 7.30 Friday Night is Musec Night 8.46 Stanley Black at the pleno 9.00 Listen to the Band; MI Yorkshire Imperted Band 10.00 Radio 2 Arts Programme. Tony Stavesom reports on the RSC writer four 12.05am Jazz Parade 12.36 ERs Hill with Night Ride 3.00-4.00 A Little Night Musec

News and sport on the hour untuit 7.00pm.
6.00am World Service: World News; 6.09 News
About Britan; 6.15 The World Today 6.30
Morning Edition 9.00 Schools: Topic Resources 9-11: 9.15 History 9-11: 9.25 The Maric Bac;
9.45 Something to Think About, 10.00 Music Workshop 10.25 1, 2, 3, 4, 5.10,40 Johnnie
Walker well The AM Alternative 12,30pm Caribbean Magazine 1,00 News Update 1,15 1, 2, 3,
4, 5 (r) 1.30 BFBS Worldwide: Smon and the Squed 2.30 World Service: Global Concerns;
2.45 kitsmational Money Programme; 3.05 Outlook; 3.30 Focus on Feith; 4.05 Network UK
4.35 Five Aside 7-15 Nothing Ever Happers Here 7.30 King Street Jurior: Emergency A
comedy drama by Jim Eldnidge (r) 8.00 Multitrack I 8.30 Vibe-line: 0345 909693 9.30 Room
101 (r) 10.00 News. Sport 10.10 Rave, incl 11.00 Sport 12.00-12.10am News; Sport

101 (r) 10.00 News. Sport 10.10 Raws, incl 11.00 Sport 12.00-12.10sm News; Sport 10.10 (r) 10.00 News. Sport 10.10 Raws, incl 11.00 Sport 12.00-12.10sm News; Sport 10.10 (r) 10.00 News 12.00-12.10sm News; Sport 10.10 Sport 12.00-12.10sm News; Sport 10.10 Sport 12.00-12.10sm News; Sport 10.10 News 10.10 News

Termis (83736) 4.00 Frite Style Skiing (95571) 5.00 Kick-Boxing (1967) 5.00 Tarmis (5272571) 8.30 Eurosport News (3378) 9.00 Boxing (91755) 9.30 Athletics (64923) 10.00 Termis (80736) 11.00 The Road to Albertville (96200) 11.20 Eurosport News (77228) SCREENSPORT

e Vis the Astra satellite. 7.00am American Muscle (17945) 7.30 International Ios Racing 1982 (52666) 8.30 1992 Winter Olympic Preview (29620) 9.30

(2282) 6.00 Cricket: World Series Cup (62810) 7.00 Sky-Soccer Weekend (19649) International Horse Show (22736) 11.00 NrL 8.00 German League Footbal (22113) 10.00 Sky Soccer Weekend (39020) 11.00 Red Line (22839) 12.00 Anien Snooter (75576) Pre-Olympic Ice Hockey (49129) 4.00 US Man's Pro Ski Tour (8652) 4.30 Pilota (4736) 5.00 Frac Sk LIFESTYLE

 Vis the Astra satelite.
 10.00sm The Great American Gemeshows (4753649) 10.50 Coffee Break (1921804) 11.25 Great Chats of New Orleans (2882466) 12.00 Selfy Jessy Rephael (5875194) 12.50pm Star Time (42168378) 12.55 Search for Tomorrow (7489465) 1.20 Slywnys (3482028) 2.20 Litestyle Pus (23471571) 2.30 Power Hits USA (4912129) 3.25 Self-e-Vision (6985494) 3.50 Tee Break (129052) 4.00 Dick Van Dyke Show (3620) 4.30 The Great American Germeshows (2504173) 6.25 The Tony Randalf Show (2035674) 6.00 Self-e-Vision (5625823)

tain (1982): The 1930s American family looks forward to Thanksgiving day (544113) 8.15 Vibri Signs (1980): Hospital charna starting Jimmy Sroits (83229898) 10.05 The Guardian (1990): A coopie leave their beby in the care of evil British namy Jarry Seagrove (186887) 11.40 Rudo Awaskaning (1989): Hippies Eric Roberts and Cheech Marin return to civilisation after 20 years (751484) 1.25cm Slaves of New York (1899): Drama shout artists in New York (1899): Drama shout artists in New York (14118021) 3.30 The Looking Glass War (1989): A Polish defector is trained as a British spy (200853). Ende at 5.15

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9.25-5.00am Test Match Special
(MW only): New Zealand v
England. That day of the third
Test from Wellington
10.20 A Play of Passion (FM only):
Fretwork Viol Consort, with
Michael Chance, countertenor, Jeremy Budd, trable,
perform consort and theatre
songs, pavans and galliards
by Byrd, Holtome, Fernaboeco
and Gibbons
11.30 News (FM only)
11.35-12.35am Composers of the
Week: Holst (r)
1.00-2.25am Night School (FM
only) (except in Scotland) (as
Fladio 5 at 9am) taking points. Totaly, for instance, as well as no-surplus-fat items on the ECO's Königskinder, the Hockney-designed Turandor in Chicago, the WNO's Pelisas et COMPILED BY PETER DEAR AND GILLIAN MAXEY
TV CHOICE PETER WAYMARK/RADIO CHOICE PETER DAVALLE

4.45 Short Story: The Proper
Respect, by Isabel Allende.
Read by Diana Ouick (r)
5.00 PM 5.50 Shipping Forecast
5.55 Weather
6.00 Str. O'Clock News
6.30 Going Places: Janet Trewin
and John Brice report from
Canada on the country's
4,000-mile transport system
7.00 News 7.05 The Archers
7.20 Pick of the Week (FM only).
with Chris Serie (s)

3.05 Desert seamd Dece: Sue Lawley's castaway is the writer J.G. Bellard (s) (r)
3.45 Feedback (new series), with Chris Dunidey
10.00-10.30em Monder Most Foul (FM only): Munder on the Farm. Nick Ross narrates the fifth of six munder investioations (s)

only) 10.15 The Bible (LW only): The Book of Job. Jose Acklar reads the third of seven

reads the trans or seven episodes

10.30 Woman's Hour investigates the implications of a uniform retirement age for men and women, incl 11.00 News

11.30 The Natural History Programme, with Jessica Holm

12.00 News; You and Yours: John Howard talks to shoopers at

Howard talks to shoppers at the Meadowhall Centre in Sheffield 12.25pm The Food Programme: Derek Cooper looks at corporate entertaining 12.55

7.30 BBC Welsh SO under
Alexander Rainbart performs
Schoenberg (Verklärte Nacht);
Seint-Saens (Pieno Concerto
No 2 in G minor, Op 22). 8.20
Poebry of the Bedoulin: Where
the Wadi Bends. The impact
of modernity on the Bedoulin
way of life. 8.40 Beethoven
(Symphony No 5 in C minor,
Op 67)
9.20 Korean Melody (FM only from
9.25): The Dilemma of East
and West. Ken Howard asks
how the elements of South
Korean and Western music
can be synthesised Weather
1.00 The World at One
1.40 The Archers (r) 1.55 Shipping
2.00 News; Classic Serief: Under
Western Eyes. First of a twopart charactisation of Joseph
Conrad's novel set in prerevolutionary Hussia (s) (r)
3.00 News; Special Assignment
3.30 Bookshelf take to Eric Segal. can be synthesised 9.25-5.00am Test Match Special

London's dereilot waterweys
4.05 Kaleidescope reviews the
Lucian Fraud exhibition at the
Tate Gallery in Liverpoot, the
Royal Opera House production
of Don Grovanni; and D.M.
Thomas's novel, Plying into
Love (s)

RADIO 4

(s) Stereo on FM
5.55ers Stipping Forecast 6.00
News Briefing, incl 6.03
Weather 6.10 Farming Today
6.25 Prayer for the Day 6.20
Today, incl 6.30, 7.00, 7.30,
8.00, 8.30 News 6.55, 7.55
Weather 7.25, 8.25 Sport 8.40
Yes

9.00 News 9.05 Desert Island Discs: Sue

investigations (a) 10.00 News; Daily Service (LW

soonsner races to end sega, the author of Love Story; meets the novelist Carol Clewlow; and, through the eyes of Russell Celyn Jones's pickpocket hero, observes London's denellot waterways

Cherished, that there is no such thing as tone deafness, and that your voice doesn'! have to be boring. Just loosen your collar and kick off your high-heeled shoes (s) (r)

9.45 Letter from America by Alstair Cooke 9.59 Weather 10.00 The World Tonight (s)

10.45 A Book at Bedtime: Stories of Mystery — The Story of Ito Norisuke, by Lafcado Hearn 11.00 Week Ending (s)

11.25 The Financial Week (a)

11.45 Today in Parliament 12.00-12.43am News, incl 12.27 Weather 12.33 Shipping 12.43 World Service (LW only)

FRECUENCIES: Radio 1: 1053kHz/285m:1089kHz/275m:PM-97 6-98 8. Radio 2: FM-98-90 2. Radio 3: 1215kHz/ 247m; FM-90 2-92 4. Radio 4: 1984Hz/1515m;FM-92 4-94 6. Radio 5: 683kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m. LBC: 1152kHz/251m; FM 97 3. Capitat: 1548kHz/453m; FM 96 8. GLR: 1458kHz/206m; FM 94.9; World Service: MW 648kHz/463m.

SKY NEWS Via the Astra and Marcopolo satellites.

10.00 First Blood (1982): Sylvester Stalione

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